Hafa Adai!

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WHAT HER HANDS HAVE DONE

Remembering Vicky Vaughan

By BEA CABRERA
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REPORTER

Vicky Akiyama Vaughan was a child of the islands, a woman for others, and a mother of noble things.

Born on Saipan in 1933 to a Japanese father and a Chamorro mother, "Saipan was my entire world…I was happy," according to Vicky, as quoted in the book Saipan: *Oral Histories of the Pacific War* by Bruce M. Petty.

That fragile happiness was shattered, first by a personal tragedy, then by World War II itself. Vaughan, who was born in Garapan, lost her mother when she was only 5 years old. Then the war came to the islands when Vicky was 11. She then lost her father and seven out 10 siblings.

Vaughan finally succumbed on

See VAUGHAN on Page 4

The Saipan International School campus today. The building on the left is Akiyama Hall, named after Vicky Vaughan's parents. It is now used to hold classes for grade schoolers.

BEA CABRERA

$1.4M to unfreeze wages OK'd

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The House of Representatives passed yesterday a bill that appropriates $1.4 million to address the remaining 330 employees whose wages were frozen at Step 12.

House Bill 20-108 HD2, unanimously passed the House yesterday with a 17-0 vote.

Rep. Jose Itibus (R-Saipan) abstained as he is one of the bill's intended beneficiaries, while Rep. Vinson Sablan (Ind-Saipan) and minority leader Rep. Edmund Villago-

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'We are looking at long-term solution'

By BEA CABRERA
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REPORTER

H.R. 339 may have added only 350 slots for foreign workers when it passed the U.S. Senate but it gives a temporary answer to the CW-1 issue in the CNMI until it becomes law. Moreover, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce remains focused on providing a long-term solution to the issue.

In a statement by the Chamber, it said that H.R. 339 has been instrumental "in increasing awareness of our islands' plight as we lose longtime workers [but] the Chamber is

See SOLUTION on Page 4

Phase 1 of Kagman park completed

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The Kagman Community Park now has a full basketball court.

The first phase of the project has been completed and the Rotary Club of Saipan, which is spearheading the park's rehabilitation, plans to hold a groundbreaking within 15 days.

The Rotary Club started work on rebuilding the park since 2016.

According to Sonya Dancoe, the community service director of the Rotary Club, they have been working on the project for over seven months now since receiving funding from the Northern Marianas Housing Corp.'s Community Development Block grant program.

Dancoe told *Saipan Tribune* that the idea to rebuild the park was discussed for nearly five years within the Rotary but the project only took off after she discovered a source of funding last year.

Dancoe said that the intention was to build a full park with playground equipment for children of all ages, sidewalks, and exercise

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INSIDE

BUSINESS
An engineer at Google has attracted backlash for blaming biology for the lack of women programmers.

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NATION
A safe haven where drug users inject with heroin and other drugs is operating in the U.S.

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ASIA
Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte meets with America's top diplomat.

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Local

Husband allegedly attacks wife, her friend inside car

A man was injured when he allegedly shattered one of the windows of a vehicle where his wife was at the entrance of Coral Ocean Point in Koblerville last Tuesday night.

Benjamin Bok Lee, 27, also allegedly repeatedly punched his wife's male friend who was also inside the car and had aided her.

Lee was arrested for assault and battery-domestic violence and disturbing the peace.

Lee's wife allegedly wanted a divorce because of his continued use of methamphetamine or "ice."

When a police officer arrived at the scene, Lee was bleeding from his right hand and had a cut on his left forearm, scrapes on his right elbow, and his left eye was swelling.

On Monday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed a $10,000 cash bail on Lee and set the preliminary hearing for Aug. 14 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit is Lee's counsel. Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas appeared for the government.

A police officer was sent to a report of a disturbance at the entrance of Coral Ocean Point last Tuesday, Aug. 1, at 8:10pm.

Upon arriving, the officer saw Lee standing next to a red car, holding a little girl and arguing with his wife.

The officer saw the wife trying to grab the child from Lee. Another police officer also arrived and approached the family.

The first responding officer noticed that Lee was bleeding. Lee asked for an ambulance.

The officer then saw that the red car's back driver's side window had been damaged.

The officer also saw cuts on the forearm of the wife's friend but he refused medical treatment.

The wife and his friend told police that Lee attacked them while they were inside the SUV. Lee was later arrested at the Commonwealth Health Center.

The wife told police that Lee had been beating her and that she had been asking for a divorce for a long time now. He allegedly threatened to kill himself if she leaves him.

This time, however, she became angry with him and had packed her things so she could leave with their daughter, with the aid of her friend. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

OAG reduces charges vs defendants in Marpi robbery

The Superior Court granted on Monday the Office of the Attorney General's request to reduce from three to just one the charge filed against two men suspected of robbing three female tourists along Banzai Cliff Road in Marpi.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho allowed the OAG to file a first amended information charging Alvin Iguel Blas and Jazzy Kulas Rosokow each with one count of robbery.

That carries a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison.

The original information charged 28-year-old Blas and 39-year-old Rosokow each with robbery, conspiracy to commit robbery, and disturbing the peace.

The three offenses carry a total maximum sentence of 20 years and six months.

Assistant attorney general Heather P. Barcinas said the information is being reduced to a single count of robbery as to each defendant for purposes of non-trial disposition.

Barcinas contended that the amendment will neither unduly prejudice Blas and Rosokow nor compromise these proceedings.

If the defendants withdraw their "guilty" plea, the government will be reinstating all the charges against them.

Blas, a then-bakery employee, was first arrested a few hours after the robbery that occurred in the afternoon last May 14. A video taken during the incident by another tourist led to the identification of the suspects' getaway car and Blas.

Police said that Blas confessed; that resulted in the arrest of Rosokow last May 22.

Police said it was Blas who grabbed the backpack of a female tourist and ran to a white Hyundai Accent. During the struggle, the car dragged the tourist, causing injuries.

Police said that, according to Blas, it was Rosokow who was the car's driver and planned the robbery. Rosokow is Blas' brother-in-law.

Rosokow is a beach volleyball player who then-worked as a tour guide. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Regional bilingual and bicultural group to re-establish committee

After three years, the Pacific Islands Bilingual Bicultural Association will finally have an entire committee just in time for the upcoming annual PIBBA conference on Saipan.

PIBBA is a non-profit organization that is composed of a local chapter and an international chapter. Both chapters are focused on the preservation of indigenous languages, heritage, and cultures across the Pacific.

The local PIBBA chapter in the Northern Marianas, specifically Saipan, has not had a committee in over three years.

According to PIBBA local chapter president Frances Sablan, PIBBA was not able to re-elect or nominate new individuals to take up positions in the PIBBA committee for over three years.

Last Monday, several individuals met at the Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood Middle School and talked about reviving the committee.

Gloriana Teuira was chosen as the committee chair. The vice chairs are Roman Tudela and Jonas Barcinas. The rest of the committee will be nominated at the organization's next meeting on Aug. 25.

According to Sablan, the PIBBA local chapter was established in 1996. Up until three years ago, the seats in the committee were filled.

Sablan decided that it was about time that they form a brand new committee before the 2018 annual PIBBA conference.

Rose Taimanao, who was part of the organization for many years, shared that the PIBBA experience depends on where the conference is held. Her experience in the PIBBA conference was in Palau.

The conference will allow attendees to get an in depth knowledge of the heritage of the conference's host and will also share the importance of different Pacific cultures, according to Sablan.

Next year, the famous PIBBA conference will be held on Saipan.

The organization is accepting volunteers. Volunteers are required to share the same dedication to the preservation of diverse indigenous cultures in the Pacific. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

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IRS files another tax lien vs owners of Dynasty

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Internal Revenue Service has filed another notice of tax lien before the federal court against Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investment Ltd., owner of the now-defunct Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino, for allegedly owing $15,387 for the tax period ending on March 31, 2017.

According to IRS court documents, taxes assessed against HKE remain unpaid.

"There is a lien in favor of the United States on all property and rights to property belonging to this taxpayer for the amount of these taxes, and additional penalties, interest, and costs that may accrue," said revenue officer David Choi in the notice of federal tax lien.

Choi claimed that HKE owes Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Returns in the amount of $15,387.10.

Last December and October 2016, IRS also filed a notice of federal tax lien against HKE for allegedly owing $15,195.96 and $593,821 in taxes for tax period ending on Sept. 30, 2016, and for 2015 to 2016 tax period respectively.

HKE no longer has any employees in the CNMI and that water and power to the Tinian Dynasty have been shut off, according to court documents.

Meanwhile, HKE and Tinian Dynasty co-owner, Mega Stars Overseas Limited, through counsel Daniel T. Guidotti, informed the U.S. District Court for the NMI last week that they have custody of the documents requested by former foreign employees.

Guidotti said the documents are located in the now-defunct Tinian Dynasty hotel.

Guidotti and attorney Samuel I. Mok, counsel for the former foreign employees, have filed a stipulation, requesting the court to modify the scheduling order in the former workers' lawsuit.

About 500 former foreign workers sued HKE and Mega Stars over the denial of their CNMI-Only Transitional Worker (CW-1) petitions. There are reportedly 15 remaining plaintiffs in this case.

Guidotti and Mok said HKE and Mega Stars hired lawyer G. Anthony Long, one of HKE's and Mega Stars' former attorneys, for the purpose of obtaining additional discovery in this lawsuit.

Guidotti and Mok said depositions of the parties are not yet complete because many of the witnesses are off-island, including two of the plaintiffs who have not been able to re-enter the CNMI due to immigration issues.

The lawyers said the lawsuit is a complex case involving 15 separate plaintiffs of different nationalities and two corporate defendants.

Guidotti and Mok said HKE is no longer in active operation while Mega Stars is overseas.

Despite these difficulties, the parties have made significant, cooperative progress in preparing this case for trial, the two lawyers said.

They said each of the 15 plaintiffs have responded to 15 separate sets of discovery requests as well as 15 separate sets of interrogatories from each of HKE and Mega Stars.

Guidotti and Mok said HKE and Mega Stars have partially responded to the plaintiffs' discovery requests and interrogatories.

The lawyers said they are continuing to work out the re-

See IRS on Next Page

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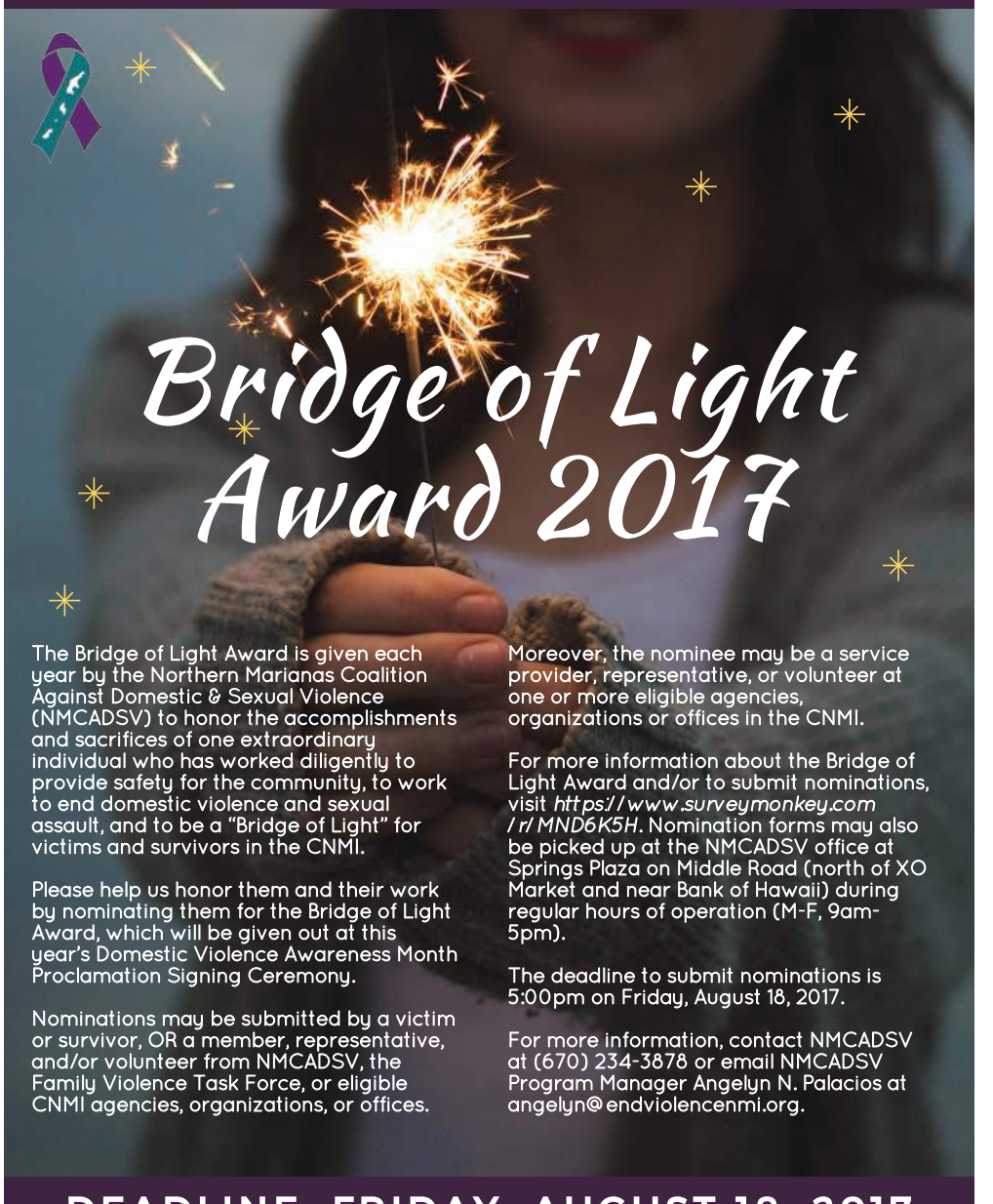
Bridge of Light Award 2017
The Bridge of Light Award is given each year by the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence (NMCADSV) to honor the accomplishments and sacrifices of one extraordinary individual who has worked diligently to provide safety for the community, to work to end domestic violence and sexual assault, and to be a "Bridge of Light" for victims and survivors in the CNMI.
Please help us honor them and their work by nominating them for the Bridge of Light Award, which will be given out at this year's Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation Signing Ceremony.
Nominations may be submitted by a victim or survivor, OR a member, representative, and/or volunteer from NMCADSV, the Family Violence Task Force, or eligible CNMI agencies, organizations, or offices.
Moreover, the nominee may be a service provider, representative, or volunteer at one or more eligible agencies, organizations or offices in the CNMI.
For more information about the Bridge of Light Award and/or to submit nominations, visit *https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MND6K5H*. Nomination forms may also be picked up at the NMCADSV office at Springs Plaza on Middle Road (north of XO Market and near Bank of Hawaii) during regular hours of operation (M-F, 9am-5pm).
The deadline to submit nominations is 5:00pm on Friday, August 18, 2017.
For more information, contact NMCADSV at (670) 234-3878 or email NMCADSV Program Manager Angelyn N. Palacios at angelyn@endviolencenmi.org.
DEADLINE: FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 2017

One of 6 defendants in sham hiring case pleads guilty

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

One of six defendants in a CW-1 scam that victimized Bangladeshi nationals pleaded guilty in federal court on Monday afternoon.

At a change of plea hearing, Md. Zeaur Rahman Dalu pleaded guilty to two counts of fraud in foreign labor contracting.

Dalu had been charged with one count of mail fraud and two counts of fraud in foreign labor contracting.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy recommended that Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona accept Dalu's guilty plea.

Dalu will remain free while awaiting sentencing.

U.S. probation officer Margarita Wonenberg did not object, saying Dalu is compliant, gainfully employed, and under electronic monitoring.

Assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto appeared for the U.S. government at the hearing.

The amended superseding indictment also charged Muksedur Rahman with two counts of mail fraud and three counts of fraud in foreign labor contracting and MD. Rafiqul Islam with one count of mail fraud and three counts of fraud in foreign labor contracting.

The amended superseding indictment also charged Shahinur Akter with one count of mail fraud and two counts of fraud in foreign labor contracting; David Trung Quoc Phan with two counts of mail fraud, three counts of fraud in foreign labor contracting, and one count of fraud and misuse of visas and permits; and Analyn Nunez with one count of mail fraud and one count of fraud and misuse of visas and permits.

Benedetto stated in court documents that the integral to the scheme to defraud was the collection of large amounts of money—roughly between $15,000 and $20,000—from each of the 12 named victims in this case.

The trial will be on Aug. 15, 2017.

Free Veterans Choice workshops this week

The office of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) is hosting this week a series of Veterans Choice workshops that are open to veterans, their families, and members of the public who would like to learn more about veterans' options for healthcare through the Veterans Administration's Choice program.

The workshops are scheduled as follows:

- Rota: Aug. 8, 2017, from 9:30am to 11:30am, NMC instructional site, Room A-1
- Tinian: Aug. 9, 2017, from 9:30am to 11:30am, Tinian Public Library
- Saipan: Aug. 10, 2017, from 5pm to 7pm, Pedro T. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center

Representatives of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and TriWest (the VA's third-party administrator for the Choice program) will be present to share information and answer questions. ***(PR)***

PHASE 1

From Page 1

equipment for the adult. Unfortunately, the allotted funding did not suffice.

"We wanted to construct a full park with playground equipment for the toddlers and older toddlers. We also wanted to include sidewalks and benches, some exercise equipment for adults, swing sets, a full basketball court, bleachers…and some activities for the kids but due to some funding limitations we decided to reduce the size of the project," said Dancoe.

She declined to state the amount allotted for the project but did disclose that they got only half of the amount they asked for.

"We only got probably half of what we requested for originally so we decided to reduce the s project into two phases," she said.

That included reducing the first phase of the project too.

Phase 1—which consists of a basketball court, two bleachers, two swing sets, a balance beam, a hopscotch area, a tire mound, wooden stumps, and solar lights—was completed several weeks ago.

Dancoe is still not certain when she and her team will be able to carry out Phase 2. That includes the sidewalks and equipment that can be used by adults.

Dancoe has already submitted another grant application with NMHC and she has yet to get a response.

Dancoe hopes the Kagman community will make full use of the park, especially the youth, and that they will take advantage of the facilities.

Aside from using the park, Dancoe hopes the community can work to keep the park in good condition and to ensure that the park is used correctly to prevent vandalism.

"Our goal for this park is to keep the kids off of the streets and that they find something to do in their free time," she said.

The community is invited to the groundbreaking on Aug. 23, 2017 at 9am.

VAUGHAN

From Page 1

July 14 after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. She passed away in Aurora, in Chicago, where she worked at the Chicago Housing Authority and managed senior living facilities.

After retiring, she went back to Saipan and became instrumental in the many lives of individuals, families and the community. She is mainly credited with helping build the Saipan International School.

One of her friends, Milagro Saiki, who is business manager of Saipan International School, said that Vicky made sure that SIS was going to be built because she was a big believer in education and loved children.

"SIS was a different school before. The owners then had to leave the island so a new board of directors took over and officially called it SIS. The school was just a simple house at the back of a gas station on Beach Road and it could only accommodate 45 students," Saiki said.

Vaughan would volunteer her time to come in for a few hours to read to the children and play with them. She was their Miss Vicky.

Another friend, SIS director emeritus Roland Johnson, said, "Vicky was never a regular classroom teacher at SIS. She offered her services as an assistant, an aide, a bake sale cashier, and a thousand other roles. If SIS asked, Vicky was willing to pitch in her time. Vicky loved kids and they loved her in return."

Soon after, the school grew and there wasn't enough space to accommodate the students. SIS needed a new location. Vaughan offered to help the board with funding and to look for a place to build the school.

Vicky offered to help the board to find a new location by saying she has the land and the resources. "Vicky paid for the clearing and landscaping and the first building on that property, then leased the property with those improvements to SIS at a very reasonable rate. Vicky stepped in and fronted the money for that new building on her property," Johnson said.

The first building of the school is called the Akiyama Hall, named after Vaughan's father. To date, it holds classes for grades 1 to 5 students, a mini library, a computer room, and a mini hall.

Saiki believes that without Vaughan, SIS wouldn't be what it is today.

"She would never ask for anything back. She just comes and do her thing, with great ideas for fundraising. Anything we needed, we would call her. Whenever you need her, she will come," Saiki added.

"I knew Vicky as a friend. I did not know her before the formation of SIS, but we became friends as she, along with many other parents, put their heads together to start and grow SIS. Her smile was contagious. Those that knew her will miss her greatly," Johnson said.

Many of the school's teachers, students, and parents who were involved with SIS 16 to 18 years ago have fond memories of Vaughan.

"Vicky loved to entertain and she was very organized. She would invite all the teachers, parents, and the board—just to have all these people with her. She would open her house to different group of friends. Like a mother to her cubs," Saiki said.

Vaughan is believed to have left Saipan six years ago to move back to Chicago to be with her children and to take care of her health. Saiki remembers that it was close to Thanksgiving before she left.

"Once in a while, I would receive a postcard from Vicky and I will always send her a Christmas card with some news about the school or a newsletter. But I have always been in touch with her children and so around February-March I knew that her health wasn't good. One day I received a message to let me know she has left us," Saiki recalls.

After a long battle with Parkinson's disease, Vaughan passed away last July 14, 2017, with her family in Chicago. She was 84 years old.

Johnson said: "Vicky's legacy should be that service to others is the highest form of human expression. Vicky gave of herself freely, without thought of return, financially or otherwise….She always wanted to help others first."

"Vicky's expectations of high standards in others forced those around her to be better people. That is a lesson that younger generations should take to heart," he added.

"Everytime she has the opportunity to talk to children about the war, there was not a hint of tragedy. She won't tell you how much she suffered and how difficult life was. She will always say, 'you have to appreciate what you always have. You never know when you are going to lose it. Embrace your family and friends,'" Saiki said.

A lot were taken away early in Vaughan's life but all throughout her life she gave more of herself for service, outreach, to share a laugh, friendship and love.

Saiki recalls Vaughan saying, "The war was a difficult time… but I consider myself lucky. I have beautiful children, healthy grandchildren, and my love for Saipan never faded."

WAGES

From Page 1

mez (Ind-Saipan) was absent.

The bill seeks to address the lump-sum wages frozen at Step 12, based on Public Law 10-76, which was later amended in the succeeding legislature by P.L. 11-59.

A statement from the Torres administration commended the House for the passage of the bill.

"My administration and the Legislature both recognize the importance of making sure we fulfill our obligations to the public servants who have waited patiently for their benefits," said the statement, quoting Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

The author of the bill, Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan) thanked the employees for their "patience and understanding while the House was making its movement to identify revenues and to appropriate the needed funds."

He attributed part of the delay to the House having to coordinate with both the Office of Personnel Management and the Department of Finance to "make sure we had the complete listing and not have what we experienced in P.L. 19-75."

"We had to come up with a new bill and identify additional funding because some people were left behind," he said, referring to the prior appropriation of a similar amount to the same group of people.

According to Demapan, a number of people were not included in the listings of P.L. 19-75, which first appropriated the similar sum of $1.45 million to active and inactive employees.

The issue goes all the way back to the 1990s. The CNMI government at the time was facing a financial crisis, which pushed the CNMI government back then to implement austerity measures.

"For a long while, a lot of government employees were held at a certain pay level; they could not move up the ladder because of a lack of funds," said Demapan. "The bulk of the people got stuck at Step 12 and were there for many years," adding that the incident led to former representative Tony Sablan to author P.L. 19-75.

SOLUTION

From Page 1

focusing on our participation in efforts to provide a long-term fix."

The Chamber statement repeated a call for all local businesses to participate in the data collection project that will document the efforts that have been made to recruit and hire U.S. eligible workers, for submission to Congress.

The data collection is an ongoing effort to show that the CNMI is doing its best to hire U.S. workers, to justify continuing the CW program.

At a meeting last week, Chamber president Velma Palacios said the U.S. Senate has the impression that CNMI has made little effort to recruit non CW-1 workers, "which is not true."

"This data will be forwarded to…the U.S. Congress to provide factual data regarding the earnest efforts to employ U.S. workers on our island," said Chamber executive director Jill Arenovski.

In June this year, the Chamber showed its support to the Northern Marianas Business Alliance that was organized to help the CNMI government convince Congress to extend the CW-1 program.

The NMBAC hired a lobbyist in Washington D.C. to push H.R. 339 and provisions that the CNMI government and businesses need to be able to sustain the economic growth of the CNMI.

IRS

From Page 3

maining discovery issues.

In their lawsuit, Eric Dona and co-plaintiffs alleged that the owners and management of Tinian Dynasty lied to them about their immigration status, that they were legally authorized to work despite the denial of their CW-1 petitions.

State plan highlights need for poverty guidelines

Having poverty guidelines that are specific to the CNMI is a critical component to more efficient community services, according to acting Division of Youth Services administrator Sylvio Ada at the recently held legislative hearing on the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs State Plan l.

The newly released 2018 State Plan highlights approximately 4,760 families who live on incomes at or below the poverty level range in life necessities such as health, education, employment, and housing, with the severity of need and kinds of poverty-related conditions varying in each of the three islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

According to Ada, accomplishing anti-poverty goals through the DCCA-DYS requires the funds from the Community Services Block Grant to be used for projects that have a measurable outcome and will ameliorate the causes of poverty in the local community.

"With the increase of clients in the emergency shelter program and child protective services, our community demonstrates a strong need for these supports. The CNMI does not have any state poverty guidelines, and we are currently utilizing…Hawaii as our reference," Ada said.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres notes that the Hawaii guidelines are not favorable to accurately assess the state of poverty in the CNMI.

"Our State Plan serves as a blueprint for organizing and delivering necessary services to the citizens of the Commonwealth, with emphasis on serving the poor. We are currently looking into providing a reference point to better serve our community's needs," Torres said.

The State Plan notes that ongoing partnerships are needed to fulfill goals and objectives and describes the type of services to be provided, the eligibility requirements for services, the estimated numbers of clienteles to be served, and the estimated expenditure for each service program.

Additionally, the focus for the CNMI Results-Oriented Management and Accountability, CNMI-ROMA, will include long-range development and improvement of customization for enhanced performance and outcome reporting.

"Efforts will also include training for the DYS staff to encourage network ownership, thus increasing the system usage. Currently, DYS is recipient of technical assistance from The Children's Bureau the Center for States Child Welfare Capacity Building Collaborative. With the liaison representative, we have identified three major areas to work on improving in the organization," Ada noted.

The work plan will improve the efficiency of data collection, data input, case management, client tracking and referrals within the division, to list a few. Ultimately, it will fortify efficiency of programs and service provisions and strengthening families.

For more information on the DCCA State Plan or Pre-Expenditure Report, log on to https://www.dys.gov.mp/. ***(PR)***

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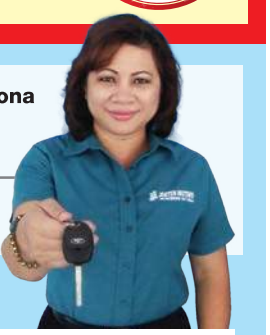

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10 surprising destinations where tourism is booming

By GAVIN HAINES
THE TELEGRAPH

A new report compiled by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) has revealed the world's fastest growing tourist destinations for 2017 – and the results throw up a few surprises.

So what can we read into the data? Well, the fact that countries such as Egypt and Tunisia feature in the top ten seems to indicate their ability – against the odds – to bounce back after a string of terrorist attacks.

As well as telling tales of resilience, the report also chronicles holidaymakers' increasing appetite to travel beyond traditional destinations and forge paths on roads less travelled. The presence of Mongolia and Nicaragua in the top ten is testament to that.

Here are the fastest growing tourist destinations so far in 2017:

1 PALESTINE

Earlier this year the street artist, Banksy, opened a boutique hotel in Palestine's West Bank, which, in hindsight, appears to have been a sage move: tourism in Palestine is booming. According to the UNWTO, the occupied territories witnessed a 57.8 per cent rise in international arrivals so far this year.

Overlooking the Israeli West Bank barrier, Banksy's politically-charged Walled Off Hotel has likely helped raise awareness of tourism in Palestine, which is on course to welcome more than 630,000 holidaymakers by the end of the year.

2 EGYPT

Egypt's tourist industry has had a torrid time of late. Ongoing political unrest and the downing of a Russian passenger plane in 2015 – which investigators attributed to terrorism – deterred many people from visiting the North African nation.

Much to the chagrin of the Egyptian authorities, the UK government still refuses to let airlines fly to Sharm el-Sheikh, from where the doomed jet departed, meaning Britain is the only European nation apart from Russia not serving the holiday resort. That hasn't stopped other nationalities flocking to the country, which has witnessed a 51 per cent spike in international tourist arrivals this year and is on course to welcome nearly 8 million holidaymakers in 2017 (though that's still well below the 14 million who visited in 2010).

3 NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Most people probably couldn't point to this archipelago on a map, but that hasn't stopped the Northern Mariana Islands from emerging as one of the fastest growing tourist destinations on the planet. According to the UNWTO, arrivals are up by 37.3 per cent so far this year.

The self-governing US commonwealth territory welcomed a modest 531,000 tour-

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ists in 2016, so we're not talking about a stampede here. Just as well really because people heading to this 15-island archipelago – with its swaying palms and powdery shores – go to escape the masses, not jostle for space with them on the beach.

5 TUNISIA

Tunisia's tourist industry suffered a similar fate to Egypt's following the Sousse beach massacre of 2015, when a gunman killed 38 people – most of them 30 Britons – during a shooting rampage.

The hotel where the massacre took place reopened earlier this year and the FCO has since eased its travel advice for Tunisia, which seems to have signalled a change in fortunes for the country: the UNWTO reports arrivals are up by 32.5 per cent so far this year. If the trend continues, some 7.5 million holidaymakers would visit Tunisia in 2017, not far off the 7.8 million who flocked there in 2010.

6 VIETNAM

Asia's fastest growing tourist destination, according to the UNWTO. Granted, Vietnam is not exactly a stranger to tourism; in fact, anyone who has visited Halong Bay – where junk boats packed with tourists jostle for space on polluted waters – will likely have seen the grimmer side of the country's burgeoning tourism industry.

Visitors should probably expect more jostling because the number of international arrivals this year is already up 31.2 per cent, meaning the number of tourists visiting Vietnam should surpass 13 million by the end of 2017. Where to escape them? Our destination expert, Lee Cobaj, recommends Ninh Binh, "the inland Halong Bay," as a less crowded alternative to the oversubscribed tourist staple.

7 URUGUAY

South America's fastest growing tourist destination may come as something of a surprise, but on paper it's easy to see why holidaymakers are finally wending their way to Uruguay (tourist arrivals are up 30.2 per cent year-on-year).

Sandwiched between the tourism heavyweights of Brazil and Argentina, Uruguay is picturesque, progressive (cannabis was legalised in 2014) and culturally sophisticated destination that's also, incidentally, home to one of the weirdest Unesco World Heritage Sites: the Fray Bentos meat packing facility. All of which is tipped to entice nearly 4 million holidaymakers this year.

8 NICARAGUA

Nicaragua has not been making the news for all the right reasons recently. A Chinese plan to build a Panama Canal-rivalling waterway through the country has stoked fears that it would destroy vital wildlife habitats and not provide enough wealth locally. The plan has since been shelved.

Despite the furore, Nicaragua is emerging as a Central America's fastest growing destination with tourist arrivals up 28.4 per cent so far this year. As well as palm-fringed beaches, the country's revolutionary history and verdant interior adds to the appeal. Despite the steep rise in arrivals, though, fewer than 2 million holidaymakers are set to visit this year.

9 MONGOLIA

Perhaps one of the biggest surprises in the list, Mongolia was once shorthand for "a very long way away" thanks to its geographical isolation amidst vast steppes and sandy deserts. But this rugged Central Asian nation now seems to be currying favour with travellers; according to the UNWTO, international arrivals are up 28.3 per cent this year.

That's a big leap, but the starting point was somewhat small: only 400,000 odd tourists trekked there in 2017. Definitely a destination for the intrepid, Mongolia is famed for its nomadic inhabitants – with whom travellers can lodge – and mad festivals such as Nadaam, a celebration of wrestling, horse racing and archery.

10 ISRAEL

The top 10, then, is bookended by destinations that live not particularly harmoniously next to one another: Israel and Palestine. They may have plenty of differences, but they share a booming tourist industry (and they do share it because many visitors arriving in Palestine do so via Israel).

According to the UNWTO, tourist arrivals in the country are up by 25.1 per cent so far this year, which, if sustained, would take the overall number of holidaymakers visiting Israel to 3.7 million by the end of the year. Israel and Palestine: the fastest growing destinations in the Middle East. Who saw that coming?

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
KSPN joins TASI Watch community rangers and MINA executive director Roberta Guerrero as a title sponsor for MINA's Green Gala.

KSPN signs on as Green Gala title sponsor

The Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance recently welcomed the addition of radio station KSPN as the latest sponsor for its upcoming Green Gala, which will be held on Friday, Sept. 15, 2017, at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

KSPN's donation of $4,000 in in-kind contributions will go a long way in supporting MINA's mission of protecting and preserving the CNMI's natural resources, according to MINA board chair Fran Castro.

"KSPN has always been one of MINA's strongest advocates," said Castro. "We are deeply thankful of their longstanding support and their commitment to the environment."

The leading conservation nonprofit organization in the Commonwealth, MINA has worked to implement various conservation projects, including the Plastic Bag Challenge, the Schools for Environmental Conservation workshops, the Marine Debris Prevention program, Tasi Watch Program, the Adopt-A-Bin Project, and Managaha Pride Campaign.

In order to continue its efforts to preserve and protect the CNMI's environment and biodiversity, MINA is seeking the community's participation in the Green Gala event. The organization is supported by project grants and generous contributions of local businesses and community members.

In addition to lively entertainment, dinner, and a variety of beverages, the Green Gala will feature highlights from MINA's projects, a silent auction, and many other activities that promise a memorable evening to celebrate over 10 years of working with island communities for conservation.

For more information on MINA's projects, contact 233-REEF (7333), or send email to minaoutreach@gmail.com. ***(MINA)***

Saipan beach red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged the Garapan Fishing Dock and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of this locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from this location contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

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LAUNCHING THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

MCS upgrades IT system

Mount Carmel School is preparing for the new school year by rolling out new upgrades to its information technology system as part of a 21st-century education initiative.

The most important upgrade is an increase in the bandwidth of the campus WiFi and local area network.

Working with both IT&E and Docomo Pacific, connection speeds have been increased from 36Mbps to the 200Mbps range. At those speeds, teachers and students will be able to stream education videos, access online content, and work with various learning management systems.

The school is also transitioning to a new student information management system, RenWeb, that offers more user-friendly features for students, parents, and teachers. With the new system, users will be able to access grades, submit homework, and eventually pay tuition online.

These upgrades come just in time for the school's new AP course in computer science principles, which the college board approved recently.

The school has even formed a Tech Task Force to make the most of the upgrades. The task force includes four teachers representing the entire K-12 grade spectrum and will serve to provide training and tech support to the faculty and student body.

MCS

Leading the IT upgrades at Mount Carmel School is IT director Jonathan "J.C." Clark, who has over 20 years of experience in application development, network management, and computer programming.

The Tech Task Force is headed by the school's IT director, Jonathan "J.C." Clark, who has over 20 years of experience in application development, network management, and computer programming and is a Linux Foundation certified engineer. Under Clark's leadership, the school has steadily improved its IT system over the past two years.

"I am very satisfied with our progress," said Clark about the improvements. "We have established a strong basic infrastructure, which we can build upon and are opening up to more possibilities and giving ourselves more options in managing electronic content."

For Clark, the most important goal is to help students. "The improved bandwidth means that students will have a better UX [user experience] when at school and we can provide online content from our data center when off campus."

This is why he has also invested time and resources into training teachers. "Better trained teachers and staff will be able to deliver content in a clear and concise manner."

Looking ahead, Clark said, "One of our goals is to have a digital library for a relaxing area for study and research. …We want to make as many tools available for students and teachers."

The upgrades to the IT system are all part of the school's recently announced strategic master plan. In its commitment to the tech initiative, the school's board of directors approved the allocation of human and financial resources to ensure that students are getting the most technologically advanced education possible on island.

For more information about MCS or to enroll for the new school year, call 234-6184 or visit www.mountcarmelsaipan.com. ***(MCS)***

NMC grad passes NCLEX in 1st try

Another Northern Marianas College graduate has joined the list of students who have passed the challenging National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses, NCLEX-RN. Michael D. Hidalgo, who graduated from NMC last May, recently took the exam and passed in his first attempt.

Hidalgo

The NCLEX-RN tests individuals nursing knowledge, skills and abilities essential to the safe and effective practice of nursing at the entry level. The exam is used by nursing boards in all U.S. states and territories to award nursing licenses.

"We are extremely proud of Michael's accomplishment as well as the other nursing students who have been able to reach this important milestone of passing the NCLEX," said NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez.

Recent NMC graduates who have also passed the NCLEX include Mika Sablan, Lovely Lopez, Gemmilie Eugenio, and YuGeun Oh.

"Michael has a bright future in the nursing field and we expect to see great things from him as his educational and professional journey continues," said NMC Nursing Department chair Rosa M. Tudela. "We wish him the best on his future endeavors."

"The major factor that contributed to my passage of the NCLEX was the amount of time and dedication in studying the contents and techniques for NCLEX, together with the huge support from my family and friends," said Hidalgo.

"NMC also gave me a real-life experience in the hospital setting. I was exposed to the medical and surgical aspects of nursing, and some of these showed up in the exam," Hidalgo said.

Asked what advice he would give other students who are preparing to take the NCLEX, Hidalgo said, "My advice for them is to be very serious when it comes to studying. Stick to a good schedule and, most importantly, take the exam as soon as possible."

For more information about the NMC Nursing program, contact the NMC Nursing Department at 237-6743 or visit the Nursing Department office in Building C at the NMC As Terlaje campus (Monday to Friday, 8am- 4:30pm) ***(NMC)***

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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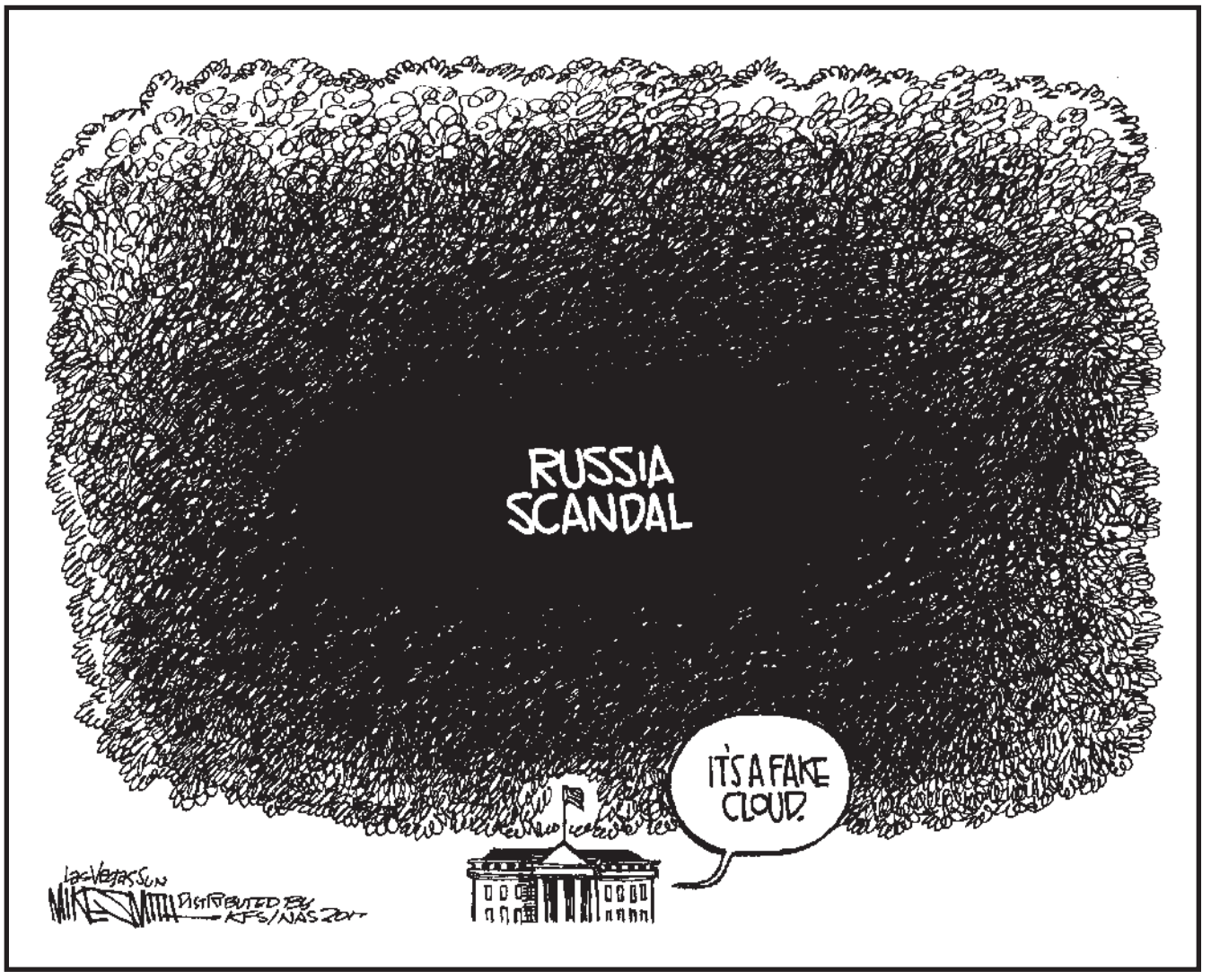

EDITORIAL

Trump's new immigration bill: What works, what won't at all

America has long needed a sweeping overhaul of its immigration system. It'll have to keep waiting. A bill from Republican Sens. Tom Cotton of Arkansas and David Perdue of Georgia that President Donald Trump just endorsed contains a smart policy idea that has worked well for Canada but is otherwise intellectually bereft and deeply disappointing.

> It would cut the number of immigrants in half, allowing about 500,000 green cards to be issued a year, down from roughly 1 million.

President Donald Trump shakes hands with Sen. David Perdue (R-Ga.) during an announcement on the introduction of the Reforming American Immigration for a Strong Economy Act on Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2017, in the Roosevelt Room at the White House in Washington, D.C. At left is Sen. Tom Cotton (R-Ark). ZACH GIBSON/POOL/SIPA USA/TNS

The smart idea is moving to a merit-based system that admits immigrants who are most likely to become productive residents by grading them on a point system based on education, work experience and language proficiency. While America must always accept vulnerable refugees, there is no reason broader immigration policy shouldn't be akin to college admissions policies that value hard work, accomplishment, intelligence and diversity of backgrounds and experience. Yet there is disagreement.

This idea is attacked on the left as mean-spirited and, because of the language provision, racially motivated. But facility with English is already an immigration requirement—and

See TRUMP on Next Page

Tracking the 'eye of God'

By FRANK CLOSE
Los Angeles Times

Frank Close is a British particle physicist . His latest book is Eclipse: Journeys to the Dark Side of the Moon.

What is the most beautiful natural phenomenon you have ever seen? A brilliant rainbow set against a distant storm, the shimmering aurora in an Arctic night, or a blood-red sky just after sunset, perhaps? Here's what puts all those in the shade: the diamond-ring effect that heralds a total solar eclipse, an explosion of light on the edge of the moon's inky circle, as it blots out the sun.

When the moon is in direct line of sight of the sun, a "totality" completely and precisely blocks our central star from view, casting a shadow on Earth's surface about 100 miles in diameter. As our planet spins in its daily round, that shadow rushes across land and sea at about 2,000 miles an hour. If you are in its direct path, you'll never forget it.

Total solar eclipses occur at regular intervals, but each time a mere 0.5 percent of Earth's surface is totally obscured by the moon's shadow. On Aug. 21, for the first time in a century, that 0.5 percent will cross the whole of North America, more or less kittycorner from northwest Oregon through Idaho and across Wyoming, Nebraska and Missouri, then parts of five more states to South Carolina, potentially creating the largest-ever audience for a totality.

There is a slow build-up to the main event. It takes about an hour for the moon to gradually cover the sun. The bright disc shrinks to a sliver and twilight falls, giving the illusion that the sun is disappearing. This frightened the ancients, who feared that the source of all life was about to be extinguished.

As the last of the sun vanishes, the temperature drops, and from the west, a wall of darkness, the moon's shadow, approaches. In an instant you are enveloped by gloom and the moon has appeared—in silhouette—as if from nowhere, like a rabbit from the conjurer's hat. This is a truly weird phenomenon.

The sounds of animals cease, and life seems in suspended animation as for a few minutes night comes to the dome of the sky directly overhead, and covers the land from one horizon to the other. Look up, and you will see stars as if it were normal night, but accompanied by a blackened moon surrounded by sun's shimmering white corona, like a black sunflower possessed of delicate silver petals.

One watcher has described it to me as "looking into the valley of death with the lights of heaven far away calling for me to enter." Another exclaimed: "Is that the eye of God?"

Minutes later, daylight returns in an instant; more magic.

I saw my first partial eclipse as an 8-year-old at school in Great Britain. My teacher told me I would have to wait 40 years to see a total eclipse in England. So on Aug. 11, 1999, with my wife and elder daughter, I traveled to the southwest tip of the country, to the path of totality. We carefully placed ourselves on the center line of the eclipse, but thick clouds hid the sun from view.

At 11 a.m., with just minutes to go before my first totality was supposed to arrive, the gloom wasn't lifting. What I had waited most of my life to see would unfold on the far side of a curtain, out of sight. All I could do was to look to the west, from where the shadow would come, in the hope of some small break in the clouds.

There was none. Instead, in the distance, blackness signaled what appeared to be a storm of gargantuan intensity gathering just beyond the horizon. Then I realized: This was not more bad weather, but a dramatic overture.

The vision was terrible, apocalyptic. Blackness swelled out sideways and saturated the distant sky in less time than it takes to articulate, like a tsunami rushing towards me, swallowing up the intervening space.

Within half a minute the moon's shadow enveloped the landscape all around me. Utter silence descended. It was as if a black cloak had been cast over everything. And then I watched the moon's shadow rush away eastwards, dissipating, and the birds and animals reawoke.

I had chanced upon a unique eclipse experience, a darkness upon a darkness, that I have never again witnessed. Even concealed, the totality was magnificent.

After the thrill of an eclipse you can't wait to do it again (I've now seen six total solar eclipses), but wait you must until that exquisite alignment of sun, moon and Earth comes around once more. When it does, you must go to wherever the moon's shadow will momentarily sweep across a small part of the globe. Anyplace else and at best you'll see a partial eclipse, or nothing at all.

I say, if you can get to the totality, go—whatever it takes. I am bringing my children and grandchildren with me to the North American show, so they can have a lifetime's memory. Cloudy or clear, it will be worth it.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Plan wouldn't do much to increase highly skilled immigrants

By CLIVE CROOK
Bloomberg View

Clive Crook is a Bloomberg View columnist and writes editorials on economics, finance and politics. He was the chief Washington commentator for the Financial Times, *a correspondent and editor for the* Economist *and a senior editor at the* Atlantic*. Readers may email him at ccrook5@bloomberg.net.*

It was smart politics for President Trump to endorse the immigration plan proposed by Republican Sens. Tom Cotton and David Perdue last week. Their plan is badly flawed, but that's partly beside the point—because it has little chance of ever being enacted.

The endorsement was smart because it appeals to Trump's base, and even more because it invited the kind of criticism that weakens his critics. Not for the first time, that invitation proved impossible to resist.

The Reforming American Immigration for Strong Employment (RAISE) Act would reduce legal immigration by roughly half, mainly by narrowing eligibility for entry based on family connections. In addition, employment-related immigration would be controlled using a new points system based on factors such as the ability to speak English, level of education and skills.

This is a bad plan mainly because it would fail to increase the inflow of highly skilled immigrants—a group that the U.S. needs a lot more of. Skilled immigrants raise U.S. wages and productivity. The lack of skilled immigrants holds back the economy and pushes employers in crucial areas such as information technology to invest and create jobs abroad. The U.S. lets in far fewer skilled immigrants in relation to the domestic population than countries such as Canada and Australia (which use points-based systems that the administration has called models for its approach).

The most effective criticism of the Cotton-Perdue plan, and a charge that's capable of carrying weight with waverging Trump supporters, is just that: The country needs more skilled immigrants and this plan doesn't provide them. The weakest criticism—weak mainly because it's false—is to suggest that any and all immigration, legal or illegal, from Ph.D. engineers through semi-educated casual laborers to elderly siblings without prospect or intention of working, is good for the country.

That isn't the explicit position of most of Trump's opponents. They don't argue for "open borders" as such. But you don't have to be a bigot to think that's what their arguments add up to.

I'm an immigrant, in favor of a liberal immigration policy—and not just for immigrants with degrees and skills. Unskilled immigrants fill gaps in the labor market too, and do valuable work that lowers prices and thereby raises aggregate living standards.

Yet the case for high levels of unskilled immigration isn't open and shut. One body of evidence suggests that the effect of low-skill immigration on wages at the bottom of the labor market is small or even zero. Other research suggests it can and does hurt the least-educated or otherwise disadvantaged Americans.

Critics of Trump's approach tend to ignore such inconvenient findings or suggest that they don't matter—so what, if the losses are limited to a small minority of people (who, by the way, are losers to begin with and probably voted for Trump). Well, Democrats are supposed to be worried about poverty and inequality. If the pressure hurts the poorest Americans, that makes the issue more serious, not less.

Another response is to say that anti-immigrants are getting worked up over a problem that no longer exists. The share of unskilled immigrants in the total has fallen a long way in recent years, so what need is there for new measures to reduce it?

It's a good question. New immigrants to the U.S. are indeed better educated than they used to be. As of 2015, a surprisingly high 48 percent of newly arrived immigrants were college graduates (up from 27 percent in 1990). On the other hand, that means roughly half of them weren't. And only 23 percent of newly arrived immigrants from Latin America had degrees.

Note that one reason for the impressive rise in educational standards is that illegal immigration has fallen sharply over the past ten or so years. This in turn is partly due to stricter border enforcement—a policy Democrats are reluctant to praise (even though President Barack Obama prosecuted it). And some of the forces holding down illegal immigration, including the shifting balance of economic opportunity north and south of the Mexican border, may be temporary.

Substantively, it's too soon to say that the issue of low-skill immigration has gone away. Politically, in any case, the question is as salient as ever.

Merely recognizing that smart restrictions on immigration are warranted, that unskilled immigration can be problematic, that America's unusually generous treatment of extended-family members should be re-examined, and that the immigration laws should be enforced, would strengthen the case against Trump. It would improve the prospects of the right kind of reform, aimed first and foremost at increasing high-skill immigration. And it would deny Trump an easy opportunity to shore up his support.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The 80-percent loot!

Normally, I'd maintain cool-headed humility on issues just to be able to analyze them later. But not when lower house legislators inflicted atrocious familial economic Armageddon by raising their loot by 80 percent. So sad their wiser-than-thee treachery or abhorrent behavior, convinced they've done another successful tip-top job. Nah! We heard your every whispery sashay!

As though civil servants are ignorant, they handed them breadcrumbs like a 5-percent hike while simultaneously ignoring those in the private sector. Sure, we stood by the roadside as bystanders but we know our issues! Eh, taxpayers are smart too!

This act of greed reminds me of what Einstein said: "Two things are infinite: the universe and human stupidity; and I'm not sure about the universe." So how do we derail Capital Hill idiocy, imbecility, astigmatism, and derangement in this instance? We could do it next year!

We read touts of "economic improvements" but a closer look at reality reveals a much gloomier picture. Isn't it true that more than 13,000 combined employees are earning poverty income and below salaries? How could you have missed this glaring fact? Is your ignorance premised on reading deficiency?

Obviously, you've failed due diligence, given your new modus operandi. So you leave behind people limping in the misery of poverty to fend for themselves while you scurry off with your hefty loot! It's $31,000 more for your pockets against a measly sum for civil servants.

What about those in private industries who earn a measly amount per year? Are they not deserving of some help too? Are they immune to the skyrocketing cost of basic goods here? Why would you punish productive workers in favor of filling your pockets with more taxpayers' money you've never earned? Aren't civil servants and private industry employees people too?

What have you done on rock solid basis to increase the buying power of families throughout the archipelago? Isn't your action one of malfeasance or misfeasance in office? With such grand fiduciary failure did you really expect re-election next year? *Hombre iya!*

This bravery in arrogance happens when legislators lose their sense of empathy for the people they've sworn to represent. It slides into greed where they look at their ugly conscience in the mirror and declare, "It's me, myself and I!" You may have approved it, now. That you'd receive later, never! Most voters are ready to intone "*pues adios estake*…" Get that pal?

I suppose it's okay to play George Gershwin's haunting *Summertime*, an idealistic vacation when we leave everything behind while playing along the shore, only to find out paradise has morphed into a hellish hole.

John S. DelRosario Jr.
As Gonno, Saipan

TRUMP

From Page 10

such language skills are common throughout the world. English is either the primary or secondary language in 94 nations. More than one-third of residents in Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Croatia, Latvia and Italy speak English. And as The New York Times reported in 2007, "English dominates the world as no language ever has."

The idea is attacked on the right because of the belief that legal immigrants take jobs away from Americans. While economists are divided over whether low-skilled unauthorized immigrants displace American workers, there is no question that legal immigrants are a huge engine of economic growth. A 2016 report found that more than half the 87 privately held U.S. startups valued at $1 billion or more were founded by immigrants from a long list of nations including South Africa, Israel, China, India, Canada and the United Kingdom.

But the most problematic thing about Trump's preferred plan is that while it recognizes the valued of skilled workers, it would cut the number of immigrants in half, allowing about 500,000 green cards to be issued a year, down from the present roughly 1 million. That is a recipe for shrinking the economy.

The plan also ignores how much the aging U.S. work force needs big infusions of new workers because of U.S. birth rates being at historic lows.

And it ignores the agriculture industry's concern about securing enough farm workers.

Finally, the Cotton-Perdue measure does nothing to bring 11 million unauthorized immigrants out of the shadows with a path to earn citizenship, punting on the biggest immigration issue of all.

The good news is that the bill appears dead on arrival in the Senate because of opposition from moderate Republicans. The bad news is that the chance of a grand immigration compromise seems more distant than ever, with many millions of Americans firm believers that immigration hurts the nation and many other millions of Americans believing such views are driven by rank bigotry.

In 1986, President Ronald Reagan and House Speaker Tip O'Neill, D-Massachusetts, managed to win bipartisan approval of a sweeping immigration reform measure with dozens of votes to spare.

In polarized 2017, alas, the very idea of such cooperation on immigration seems like a fantasy.

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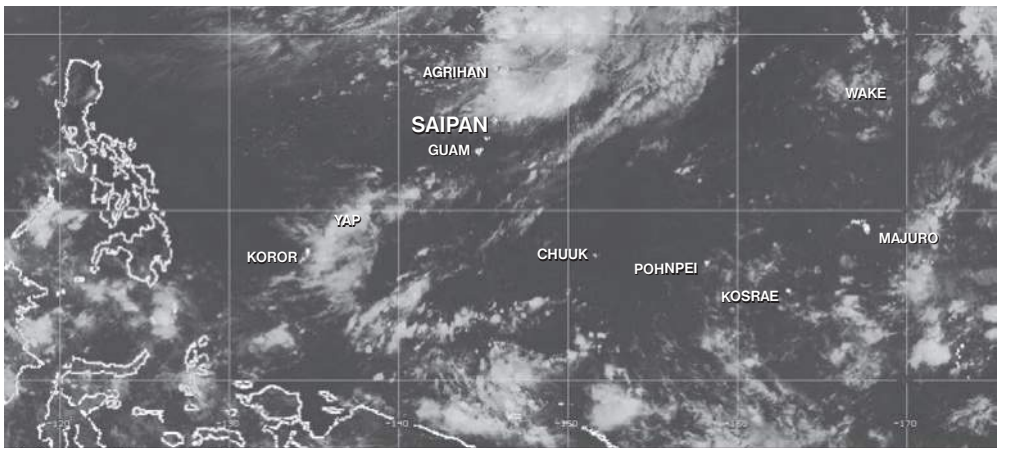
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly sunny with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼78°	▲90° ▼79°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 1:32 PM, TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

No major changes made to the inherited forecast. Fairly dry mid-level air remains over the islands, with increasing moisture expected over the next 12 to 24 hours. Maintained scattered showers for this afternoon and tonight for now, though it looks less likely for this to occur. Some weak converging winds in the col area between 2 surface ridges along with a mid-level trough south of Minami Tori Shima are generating isolated thunderstorms this morning, mainly over Saipan waters. These features are expected to continue to slowly drift south toward the Marianas, increasing convection over the islands this afternoon through Wednesday night. If available moisture increases a bit, scattered showers are possible. For the weekend into early next week, weak convergence is expected to again drift over the islands as the monsoon to the north sinks southward toward Saipan. This could bring a risk of thunderstorms back to the islands Saturday through Monday.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	88° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Majuro	Sunny	87° / 81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Thunderstorms	59° / 48°
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	90° / 73°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	90° / 84°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	88° / 76°
London	Rain	61° / 54°
Los Angeles	Sunny	85° / 67°
Manila	Mostly Sunny	90° / 79°
Melbourne	Showers	63° / 46°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	87° / 80°
New York	Mostly Sunny	84° / 67°
Osaka	Showers	91° / 81°
Paris	Showers	70° / 55°
Busan	Showers	88° / 75°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	97° / 73°
Salem	Thunderstorms	84° / 72°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	65° / 57°
Seoul	Thunderstorms	88° / 73°
Tokyo	Rain	86° / 75°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	84° / 67°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:51 AM	LOW TIDE	0.97
7:56 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.88
3:00 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.15
9:36 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.92

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:01 AM	6:43 PM
Thursday	6:01 AM	6:43 PM
Friday	6:01 AM	6:42 PM
Saturday	6:01 AM	6:42 PM
Sunday	6:02 AM	6:41 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	7:00 AM	7:50 PM
Thursday	-	7:52 AM	8:33 PM
Friday	-	8:44 AM	9:16 PM
Saturday	-	9:37 AM	9:59 PM
Sunday	-	10:31 AM	10:44 PM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 1, 2017

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	1:35am	5:20am	2, 3, 4
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
TW308	2:35am	6:20am	6, 7
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	4:45am	8:35am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily
ZE584	4:00pm	8:05pm	1, 3, 5
ZE584	4:35pm	8:15pm	2, 4, 6, 7
ZE582	4:45pm	8:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:20am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:00am	10:25am	1
JD396	4:50pm	8:15pm	4

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	1, 3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:15pm	7:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:00am	1, 2, 4, 6via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	3, 5, 7 via GUM
PR1572	4:40am	6:45am	1, 4
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:40pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:40pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	4:40am	8:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

ZE583	9:10am	2:40pm	1, 3, 5
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
ZE583	10:05am	3:35pm	2, 4, 6, 7
ZE581	10:10am	3:55pm	Daily
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1, 2, 3
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
TW307	8:05pm	1:35am+1	5, 6
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
LJ651	10:00pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:10am	3:30pm	4
JD395	10:05pm	5:30am+1	7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6, 7

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:20am	2:50pm	Daily

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR1571	9:20pm	3:40am+1	3, 7
UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
PR110/UA6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UO42	4:50pm	12:05am+1	2, 6
HX076	5:20pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:05pm	1:10am+1	1
UO42	6:10pm	1:00am+1	3
UO42	6:10pm	1:10am+1	4
UO42	6:40pm	2:00am+1	7
UA116/6395	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

CAMPUS BRIEFS

KES orientations set

Kagman Elementary School will be having a parent/student orientation for school year 2017-2018 on the following dates:

■ Aug. 14, at 9am for all Kindergarten to 2nd Grade students

■ Aug. 15, at 9am for all 3rd to 5th Grade students

The first day of instruction will be on Aug. 16 at 7:40am. Breakfast will be served beginning at 7am. ***(PR)***

DMS orientations set

Dandan Middle School will hold an orientation on Monday, Aug. 14, 2017:

■ 6th Grade orientation: 9:30 am, DMS cafeteria

■ 7th grade orientation: 10:30am, DMS cafeteria

■ 8th Grade orientation: 11:30am, DMS cafeteria ***(PR)***

SSHS star math tests

Saipan Southern High School will hold math tests on Aug. 14 and 15, from 10am to 12pm and 2pm to 3pm. ***(PR)***

TMS information out

Tanapag Middle School would like to announce that registration for school year 2017-2018 is due. All students, new and returning, must register every school year. First day of school is Wednesday, Aug. 16, 2017. Orientation is on Thursday, Aug. 17, 2017, from 5pm to 6pm in our school campus. For any questions, call the office at 664-3425. ***(PR)***

SSHS new student orientation set

Saipan Southern High School will have a new student orientation today, Aug. 7, 2017, at 10am and 2pm at the school cafeteria. Parents of new students attending Saipan Southern High School can attend either session (10am or 2pm). ***(PR)***

Kagman Elementary orientations set

Kagman Elementary School will be having a parent/student orientation for school year 2017-2018 on the following dates:

■ Monday, Aug. 14, at 9am for all Kindergarten to 2nd Grade students

■ Tuesday, Aug. 15, at 9am for all 3rd to 5th Grade students

In addition, the first day of instruction will be on Wednesday, Aug. 16, at 7:40am. Breakfast will be served beginning at 7am.

NMC registration for fall semester ongoing

Registration at the Northern Marianas College for the fall 2017 semester is ongoing until Aug. 18, 2017. Late registration/advising period: Aug. 14 -18, 2017

Placement tests: Aug. 7 to Aug. 10; to schedule your placement test, call 237-6774 or email date/time preference to isabel.matsunaga@marianas.edu. Proceed to the Office of Admissions & Records (Building N) to obtain a placement test form. Make payment ($25 per test) at the NMC Cashier Window (Building N).

For more information, contact the NMC Office of Admissions and Records at 237-6768/6769/6771 or visit www.marianas.edu. ***(NMC)***

OES information out

Oleai Elementary School would like to invite all incoming and continuing students with their parents and guardians for orientation and Open House. Orientation will take place in the school cafeteria for all grade levels (Kindergarten to 5th grade) on Aug. 10 and Aug. 11, 2017, from 5pm to 6pm. Parents and guardians can choose to come on either night. Open House will take place on the following dates for the following grade levels, as follows:

■ Kindergarten to 2nd grade: Aug. 17, 2017, from 5pm to 6pm

■ 3rd grade to 5th grade: Aug. 18, 2017, from 5pm to 6pm ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-17-018

Supply and Delivery of Water and Wastewater Annual Materials

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Supply and Delivery of Water & Wastewater Division Annual Materials for Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CUC may award a contract to more than one firm for the materials based on bids for "Commodity Groups".

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC-IFB-17-018, Supply & Delivery of Water & Wastewater Division Annual Materials",*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 06, 2017** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and

Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All responses to this IFB shall take into account any and all taxes which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract.

The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Prospective Bidders must comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 22, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator- via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Geoffrey Ada, CUC Water-Wastewater, Inventory Technician – via email address geoffrey.ada@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & CULTURAL AFFAIRS
DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES

PUBLIC HEARING ANNOUNCEMENT

This is to inform the general public that the Division of Youth Services under the auspices of the Department of Community & Cultural Affairs will be conducting a public hearing on the FY 2018 Consolidated Block Grant State Plan under the authority of the Social Services Block Grant- Title XX, as amended and codified at 42 U.S.C. §1397 et seq. on the following dates/time:

ISLAND	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Saipan	08/03/2017	5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	DYS Tanapag Youth Center
Tinian	08/10/2017	5:30 PM – 6:30 PM	Tinian Youth Center
Rota	08/17/2017	5:30 PM – 6:30 PM	Rota Youth Center

SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (SSBG)

The basic programs that would be implemented under the Social Services Block Grant Consolidation for the CNMI must be linked to one or more of the 5 statutory goals;

1. Achieving or maintaining economic self- support to prevent, reduce, or eliminate dependency. ***(Self- Support)***
2. Achieving or maintaining self- sufficiency, including reduction or prevention of dependency. ***(Self- Sufficiency)***
3. Preventing or remedying neglect, abuse or exploitation of children and adults unable to protect their own interest, or preserving, rehabilitating or reuniting families. ***(Protective Services)***
4. Preventing or reducing inappropriate institutional care by providing for community- based care, hom e- based care, or other forms of less intensive care. ***(Prevent Institutionalism)***
5. Securing referral or admission for institutional care when other forms of care are not appropriate or providing services to individuals in institutions. ***(Appropriate Institutionalism)***

An electronic copy of the 2018 Consolidated Block Grant State Plan may be viewed on the links provided below:

Division of Youth Services- www.dys.gov.mp
Department of Community & Cultural Affairs- www.dcca.gov.mp
Governor's Office- www.gov.mp

Copies for the above State Plan may also be picked up at the DYS Office in Chalan Piao, Joeten building 1st floor (located next to Bank of Guam). For more information, or to submit written comments, you may contact:

Telephone numbers: 664-2550/2557/2592
Email: Rita Castro (DYS Grant Writer) rcastro@dys.gov.mp
Sylvio S. Ada (DYS Acting Administrator) sada@dys.gov.mp

/s/ Sylvio S. Ada
DYS Acting Administrator

/s/ Robert H. Hunter
DCCA Secretary

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-17-038

Electric Power Pole Mitigation Project

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms to perform mitigation of the CUC power distribution system through the replacement of 374 wood poles to concrete poles in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project entails the replacement of 103 units of 35-foot and 271 units of 40-foot wood poles to concrete poles and the assembly of electrical hardware. The work site is to take place across CUC's power grid.

This project is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from the CUC and FEMA.

*CUC requires the Project to be completed in **174 calendar days** from date of award of contract.*

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **August 15, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-038, Electric Power Pole Mitigation Project", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 29, 2017** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 18, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator- via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Adrian Reyes, CUC Power Jr. Electrical Engineer – via email address adrian.reyes@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in said bid documents, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Business

Google exec denounces employee's views on female workers

NEW YORK (AP)—Silicon Valley's efforts to promote workforce diversity haven't yielded many results—unless you count a backlash at Google, where a male engineer blamed biological differences for the paucity of female programmers.

His widely shared memo, titled "Google's Ideological Echo Chamber," also criticizes Google for pushing mentoring and diversity programs and for "alienating conservatives."

Google's just-hired head of diversity, Danielle Brown, responded with her own memo, saying that Google is "unequivocal in our belief that diversity and inclusion are critical to our success." She said change is hard and "often uncomfortable."

The dueling memos come as Silicon Valley grapples with accusations of sexism and discrimination. Google is also in the midst of a Department of Labor investigation into whether it pays women less than men, while Uber's CEO recently lost his job amid accusations of widespread sexual harassment and discrimination.

Leading tech companies, including Google, Facebook and Uber, have said they are trying to improve hiring and working conditions for women. But diversity numbers are barely changing .

The Google employee memo, which gained attention online over the weekend, begins by saying that only honest discussion will address a lack of equity. But it also asserts that women "prefer jobs in social and artistic areas" while more men "may like coding because it requires systemizing."

The memo, which was shared on the tech blog Gizmodo, attributes biological differences between men and women to the reason why "we don't have 50% representation of women in tech and leadership."

The employee, whose identity hasn't been released, was described in news reports as a software engineer.

While his views were broadly and publicly criticized online, they echo the 2005 statements by then-Harvard President Lawrence Summers, who said the reason there are fewer female scientists at top universities is in part due to "innate" gender differences.

Brande Stellings, senior vice president of advisory services for Catalyst, a nonprofit advocacy group for women in the workplace, said the engineer's viewpoints show "how ingrained, entrenched and harmful gender-based stereotypes truly are."

"It's much easier for some to point to 'innate biological differences' than to confront the unconscious biases and obstacles that get in the way of a level playing field," Stellings wrote in an email.

AP
This Thursday, Jan. 3, 2013, file photo shows Google's headquarters in Mountain View, Calif.

Google, like other tech companies, has far fewer women than men in technology and leadership positions. Fifty-six percent of its workers are white and 35 percent are Asian, while Hispanic and Black employees make up 4 percent and 2 percent of its workforce, respectively, according to the company's latest diversity report .

Tech companies say they are trying, by reaching out to and interviewing a broader range of job candidates, by offering coding classes, internships and mentorship programs and by holding mandatory "unconscious bias" training sessions for existing employees.

But, as the employee memo shows, not everyone at Google is happy with this.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

FedEx tracking system sputters, spurring customer complaints

FedEx customers are complaining that the company's system for tracking packages has been crashing. FedEx Corp. said in statement Monday that it was dealing with sporadic issues and was trying to fix them. A spokeswoman said the Memphis, Tennessee-based company expected operations to return to normal shortly. She declined to describe the extent of the problem or say whether the company had identified the cause. Downdetector, a Dutch web-monitoring firm, says complaints started early Monday and rose through midday. Max Dushey, who owns a fulfillment-software company in New Jersey, says in an interview that the problems seem intermittent. He says some small customers have worked through the problem but his large wholesaler customers haven't been able to print mailing labels to meet orders from retailers. ***(AP)***

NYC mayor promotes millionaires' tax to fix transit woes

NEW YORK (AP)—Mayor Bill de Blasio, flanked Monday by community activists, labor leaders and fellow Democratic politicians, officially rolled out a proposal for a millionaires' tax to help fix the subways and aid low-income commuters. "People do not want to see this madness continue," de Blasio declared, citing people getting work reprimands, picking their kids up late and missing doctor appointments because of subway delays. Henry Garrido, executive director of District Council 37, the municipal labor union, said that sometimes even the people tasked with fixing the subway can't get to work on time. The number of subway delays has tripled in the past five years to 70,000 per month, and trains are overcrowded on some lines. About 5.7 million people take the subway on an average work day. At the mayor's press conference, speakers stressed that the tax would affect only a handful of taxpayers—an estimated 30,000 to 35,000—all of them in New York City. The tax, which would generate about $800 million annually, would increase the top income tax rate from about 3.9 percent to 4.4 percent for married couples who make more than $1 million and individuals making more than $500,000.

Badmouthing your boss rarely wise

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at http://www.yourofficecoach.com, or follow her on Twitter @ officecoach.*

Q: One of my co-workers recently became my supervisor. "Amanda" is great at managing tasks and projects but she has no interpersonal skills whatsoever. She tells jokes about people that aren't funny and she can be very rude.

I made the mistake of venting about this to a trusted colleague who shared my comments with Amanda's boss. Although he hasn't contacted me, he did ask another employee whether she had any problems with Amanda. She told him no because she didn't want to hurt her chances of being promoted.

Amanda obviously heard about my complaints because she has started calling me a troublemaker. I really enjoy my job, but I don't like my supervisor. What should I do now?

A: Amanda's abrasive personality cannot have come as a complete surprise. Having worked with her before, you undoubtedly knew what to expect when you heard she'd been promoted. And even though she could clearly use some leadership training, her communication style sounds more brusque than abusive.

Fortunately, this experience seems to have taught you two valuable lessons. "Trusted colleagues" are not necessarily trustworthy, and "venting" about your boss is always a huge mistake. When complaints about management wind up on the office grapevine, unwelcome consequences frequently follow.

Perhaps you should take a cue from your more cautious co-worker. She apparently realized that criticizing Amanda would automatically imply that the person who recently promoted her had poor judgment. So she made the politically intelligent decision to keep her complaints to herself.

Given that you like your job, your best bet now is to try adjusting to Amanda's less-than-perfect leadership style. If you begin acting like an ally instead of an adversary, your relationship with her may improve, and her flaws might become more tolerable.

Q: A few employees of my business were unhappy with their work schedule, so I gave out a survey asking people to select either the early shift or the late shift. Unfortunately, almost everyone wanted the earlier time.

Because the survey didn't help, I let people choose based on seniority, but now the junior employees are angry. Our job application asks people whether they can work outside the typical 8-to-5 workday, so I don't see why they're upset. What do you think about this?

A: Frankly, I think you've done a poor job of establishing expectations. Instead of making a vague inquiry about atypical work hours, you should clearly define shift times on your application. And if shifts may vary, applicants need to know before coming on board.

I also have to wonder why you chose to do a survey. As employee preferences and shift requirements were unlikely to be a perfect match, that was a recipe for discontent. While a seniority system won't make everyone happy, at least it's an objective, time-tested method for making such decisions.

The big question, however, is why you are doing this at all. If business needs have changed, that would be a valid reason. But making wholesale reassignments because of a few complainers doesn't seem to make much sense.

Nation

Report reveals underground US haven for heroin, drug users

NEW YORK (AP)—A safe haven where drug users inject themselves with heroin and other drugs has been quietly operating in the United States for the past three years, a report reveals.

None were known to exist in the U.S. until the disclosure in a medical journal, although several states and cities are pushing to establish these so-called supervised injection sites where users can shoot up under the care of trained staff who can treat an overdose if necessary.

AP

Discarded syringes lay near near train tracks in Philadelphia, Monday, July 31, 2017.

In the report released Tuesday, two researchers said they've been evaluating an underground safe place that opened in 2014. As a condition of their research, they didn't disclose the location of the facility—which is unsanctioned and potentially illegal—or the social service agency running it.

The researchers offered little data, and their main finding was that no one died while injecting at the safe place. There were two overdoses on site, which were reversed by staff members using the overdose medication naloxone.

Advocates and some politicians in recent years have called for government-sanctioned injection sites as the U.S. grapples with the opioid epidemic. More than 52,000 Americans died from drug overdoses in 2015—the most ever—fueled by soaring abuse of heroin and prescription painkillers. Government statistics for the first nine months of last year, also released Tuesday, show overdose death rates continuing to spiral.

Some say the new report could have an impact on efforts to establish safe injection sites around the U.S. Such sites have been backed by lawmakers in New York, California and other states, along with officials in cities like Seattle, San Francisco and Ithaca, New York.

"It shows people that it's possible" to operate one of these in the U.S., said Lindsay LaSalle, an attorney with Drug Policy Alliance who has helped draft safe haven legislative proposals in six states.

Injection sites are legal in countries including Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain and Switzerland where medical professionals monitor drug users. They also provide clean needles to prevent the spread of infectious diseases like HIV or hepatitis C. Ideally, they also steer users into treatment and other services.

Some experts say new approaches are needed to fight the opioid epidemic, including safe havens. But they've faced legal and political hurdles. Critics have argued these places may undermine prevention and treatment, and seem to fly in the face of laws aimed at stopping use of deadly illicit drugs.

Safe injection sites are different from syringe exchange programs, which were once controversial but now exist in 33 states.

The underground safe haven is open between four and six hours a day, five days a week, according to Alex Kral, a San Francisco-based researcher with RTI International, and Peter Davidson of the University of California, San Diego. Their report was published online in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine.

The space consists of two rooms—an "injection room" with five stainless steel stations with mirrors and stools and a room next door where users are monitored afterward. There are trained staff on hand, but no one who is medically licensed, according to the researchers. Smoking is not allowed there, but drugs like heroin, pain pills, cocaine and methamphetamine are.

Trump looks to loyal voters as support slips, agenda stalls

WASHINGTON (AP)—After six months of infighting, investigations and legislative failures, President Donald Trump is trying to combat new signs of weakness in his Republican base and re-energize his staunchest supporters.

White House officials have been urging the president to refocus on immigration and other issues that resonate with the conservatives, evangelicals and working-class whites who propelled him to the Oval Office. The president has ramped up his media-bashing via Twitter, long a successful tactic for Trump, and staged rallies hoping to marshal his base to his defense.

The effort underscores Trump's shaky political positioning not yet seven months into his presidency. Trump has remained deeply unpopular among Democrats, and there are signs that his support among Republicans may be softening. His advisers are aware that a serious slip in support among his core voters could jeopardize hopes for a major, early legislative accomplishment and would certainly increase Republicans' worries about his re-election prospects.

White House counselor Kellyanne Conway acknowledged the concerns Sunday on ABC, saying the president's approval rating "among Republicans and conservatives and Trump voters is down slightly."

"It needs to go up," she said.

In a Monday morning tweet, Trump dismissed his adviser's statement. "The Trump base is far bigger & stronger than ever before," he wrote on Twitter. He later insisted that his support "will never change!"

But polling doesn't support Trump's claim. A recent Quinnipiac University survey showed the president's approval dipping into negative territory among whites without college degrees - a key group of supporters for the president. The percentage of Republicans who strongly approve of his performance also fell, with just over half of Republicans saying they strongly approved of Trump. That's down from the two-thirds of Republicans who strongly approved of the president's performance in June.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-HSEM-189

SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 28, 2017 TIME: 11:00 A.M.

"LEASE OF WAREHOUSE FACILITY FOR FIVE (5) YEARS FOR THE CNMI HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGUALTIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRAUTITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISALNDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ GERALD J. DELEON GUERRERO
SPECIAL ASISTANT FOR HSEM

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR OF P&S

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS JUDICIARY

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-JUDICIARY-07

SUBMISSION DATE: September 1st, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"SCANNING LAND MAPS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S OFFICE"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE CASHIER WINDOW, DOOR #5, LOCATED AT THE GUMA HUSTISIA / IIMWAL AWEEWE / HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSUPE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ HON. ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
JUDICIARY EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY

/S/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-SAR-182 (A) (B)

SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 28, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF TWO CLASS "I" VEHICLES AND ONE CLASS "J" VEHICLE FOR THE OFFICE OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE & REHABILITATION"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGUALTIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRAUTITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ YVETTE R. SABLAN
SPECIAL ASISTANT FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND REHABILITATION

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR OF P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)
RFQ-17-CHCC/CGC-01

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: AUGUST 23, 2017 TIME: 1:00 PM
BID OPENING DATE: AUGUST 23, 2017 TIME: 1:30 PM

"SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (SUD) TREATMENT SERVICES, COMMUNITY GUIDANCE CENTER (CGC), COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

COPIES OF THE RFQ PACKET MAY BE PICKED –UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDITS FOR FY 2017 AND 2018

MPLT RFP 17-01

The Marianas Public Land Trust (MPLT) is soliciting Request for Proposal (RFP) for Financial and Compliance Audit for MPLT for fiscal years 2017 and 2018. Copy of the RFP is available @ www.mplt.gov.mp or may be pick-up at MPLT, 1222 Capital Hill Road, Saipan, MP 96950.
Office Hours: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Monday – Friday

Contact Barbara Reyes at (670) 322-4401/4402 or email: mplt@mplt.gov.mp for more information.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:
4:00 P.M., Tuesday, September 05, 2017

PLACE:
Marianas Public Land Trust
P.O. Box 501089
1222 Capital Hill Road
Saipan, MP 96950

The MPLT reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in a proposal if doing so is in the Trust best interest. All proposals shall become the property of MPLT.

Asia

PH leader on human rights: 'Don't go there'

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte met Monday with America's top diplomat, where he voiced solidarity with the U.S. amid global concerns over North Korea's nuclear program and angrily dismissed media questions about human rights abuses by his government.

Duterte and U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson met in Manila at a regional Asia gathering. It was the highest-level interaction to date between a member of President Donald Trump's administration and Duterte, accused by human rights groups of flagrant abuses in his bloody war against illegal drugs.

If the two leaders discussed those or other U.S. concerns about Duterte's government, they didn't do so in public. Instead, the two focused on the alliance between the two countries and on the North Korea issue as reporters were allowed in briefly for the start of their meeting.

Entering an ornate, wood-paneled hall in the Philippine leader's palace, Tillerson was introduced to members of Duterte's Cabinet, shaking hands with each. Duterte welcomed the American and said he said he knew the U.S. was concerned about Pyongyang's missile program.

"You come at a time when I think the world is not so good, especially in the Korean Peninsula," Duterte said.

Earlier, as they shook hands, the two ignored a shouted question about whether they'd discuss human rights. And at a news conference after their meeting, Duterte bristled but didn't answer directly when asked whether human rights had come up.

AP

Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop, left, gestures as she is welcomed by Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte during the former's courtesy call at Malacanang Palace in Manila, Philippines, Monday, Aug. 7, 2017. Bishop is here to attend the 50th ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting and its Dialogue Partners.

"Human rights, son of a bitch," Duterte said, arguing he shouldn't be questioned about alleged violations given the challenges he's facing. "Policemen and soldiers have died on me. The war now in Marawi, what caused it but drugs? So human rights, don't go there."

But ahead of the meeting, Duterte's presidential spokesman, Ernesto Bella, said the topic would indeed come up, along with other pressing matters such as global terrorism threats, economic cooperation and security in Marawi, the city that has been under siege by pro-Islamic State group militants for more than two months.

"We also welcome the opportunity to address concerns such as human rights if and when raised," Bella said in a statement. "We have always included this issue in our discussions and engagements with foreign governments, particularly Western democracies."

The U.S., too, said ahead of the meeting that human rights would be among the topics on the agenda.

Human rights groups have questioned the Trump administration's willingness to engage with Duterte. But Tillerson argued there's no contradiction presented by the U.S. decision to help his country fight the militants, whose insurgency in the Philippines has stoked global fears about the Islamic State group exporting violence into Southeast Asia and beyond.

Nearly 700 people have died in the intense fighting, including 528 militants and 122 soldiers and policemen, since hundreds of black flag waving gunmen stormed into buildings and homes in the business district and outlying communities of mosque-studded Marawi, a center of Islamic faith in the southern third of the predominantly Roman Catholic nation.

"I see no conflict—no conflict at all in our helping them with that situation and our views of the human rights concerns we have with respect to how they carry out their counter narcotics activities," Tillerson told reporters before the meeting. He added that it appeared the Philippines was "beginning to get that situation under control."

To that end, Tillerson said the U.S. has been providing the Philippines with surveillance capabilities, training, information and aircraft to help it fight the militants. He said the equipment includes a few Cessna aircraft and a few drones.

"The real challenge is going to come with once they have the fighting brought to an end how to deal with the conditions on the ground to ensure it does not re-emerge."

Associated Press writer Jim Gomez contributed to this report.

NKorea nukes, missiles top concerns in Japan defense review

TOKYO (AP)—The threat to Japan from North Korea has reached a "new stage" now that the country is capable of launching an intercontinental ballistic missile and its nuclear weapons program has advanced, a defense ministry report said Tuesday.

North Korea was the main concern cited as Japan's Cabinet approved the report, less than two weeks after the North test-fired a second ICBM that analysts say has a range that could include more of the U.S. mainland, including Los Angeles and Chicago.

The security review came just a week after Itsunori Onodera, who was defense minister in 2012-2014, resumed that job when Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe revamped his Cabinet after a slew of politically costly scandals.

Onodera told reporters Friday he planned to update Japan's defense guidelines to reflect the threat from the North, suggesting he may seek an offensive missile capability.

"North Korea's missile launches have escalated tensions both in terms of quality and quantity. I would like to study if our current missile defense is sufficient just with the Aegis destroyers and (surface-to-air) PAC 3," said Onodera, who headed a ruling party study in March that called for beefing up Japan's missile response capability.

The ICBM North Korea tested July 30 flew on a highly lofted trajectory and landed about 200 kilometers (120 miles) off Japan's Hokkaido island.

North Korea has been increasing the range, accuracy and versatility of its missiles and diversifying its launch sites and methods. It has conducted two nuclear tests and more than 20 missile launches over the past year alone, exceeding the total of 16 missiles launched over 18 years under former leader Kim Jong Il, the report said.

"North Korea's development of ballistic missiles and its nuclear program are becoming increasingly real and imminent problems for the Asia-Pacific region including Japan, as well as the rest of the world," it said.

The 532-page defense report also raised concerns over China's ongoing assertiveness in air and maritime activity in the regional seas, and raised concerns about the lack of transparency in the country's military build-up with its budget tripling over the past decade.

While North Korea's intentions are mainly to put the mainland U.S. in range, its weapons advancements have furthered Abe's effort to beef up the role of Japan's military and its missile defenses. Joint exercises with its ally the U.S., also, have dramatically increased. The Defense Ministry already plans to acquire upgraded ship-to-air interceptors SM-3 Block IIAs and mobile PAC-3 MSEs, which would double the coverage area of Japan's current defenses.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Wreckage of US military aircraft found off Australia; 3 dead

SYDNEY (AP)—The submerged wreckage of a U.S. military aircraft was found on Monday, two days after it crashed into the sea off the east coast of Australia and left three U.S. Marines dead, Australia's defense minister said. An Australian navy ship arrived in Shoalwater Bay in Queensland state Sunday night to help the U.S. military hunt for the MV-22 Osprey, which the Marines said was conducting regularly scheduled operations on Saturday when it crashed into the water. The wreckage was found shortly after the ship's arrival, Australian Defense Minister Marise Payne said in a statement. An Australian navy dive team was helping to recover the aircraft, the U.S. Marine base Camp Butler in Japan said.

Blast in Pakistan's Lahore wounds 10, destroys school

LAHORE, Pakistan (AP)—Pakistani police say a blast near parked fruit trucks has wounded ten people, collapsed the roof of small school building and destroyed a truck in the eastern city of Lahore. Senior police officer Adil Memon says Monday that the blast is being investigated. He said the destroyed truck was parked in an empty lot. Lahore, the capital of Punjab province, is the power base of deposed premier Nawaz Sharif. The Supreme Court disqualified Sharif earlier this month for concealing assets. The blast occurred in his constituency, now being contested after his disqualification. Sharif planned to travel to Lahore from Islamabad on Wednesday.

Indonesia barters coffee, palm oil for Russian fighter jets

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Indonesia said Monday that it will barter coffee, palm oil and other commodities for 11 Russian-made Sukhoi fighter jets, calling U.S. and European sanctions against Russia an opportunity to boost the Southeast Asian nation's trade. Indonesian Ministry of Trade spokesman Marolop Nainggolan said that a memorandum of understanding for the barter was signed Aug. 4 in Moscow between Russia's Rostec and PT. Perusahaan Perdagangan Indonesia, both state-owned companies. In a statement, Indonesian Minister of Trade Enggartiasto Lukita said the deal would be realized soon. Coffee, tea, palm oil and defense equipment will be exchanged for the Sukhoi Su-35 jets, he said. No value for the barter was announced.

World

Lebanon's army prepares to clear border area of IS militants

AP
In this December 3, 2014 file photo, Lebanese army special forces patrol in armored personnel carriers, in Ras Baalbek, eastern Lebanon.

BEIRUT (AP)—Lebanon's U.S.-backed military is gearing up for a long-awaited assault to dislodge hundreds of Islamic State militants from a remote corner near Syrian border, seeking to end a years-long threat posed to neighboring towns and villages by the extremists.

The campaign will involve cooperation with the militant group Hezbollah and the Syrian army on the other side of the border - although Lebanese authorities insist they are not coordinating with Syrian President Bashar Assad's government.

But the assault could prove costly for the under-equipped military and risk activating IS sleeper cells in the country.

The tiny Mediterranean nation has been spared the wars and chaos that engulfed several countries in the region since the so-called Arab Spring uprisings erupted in 2011. But it has not been able to evade threats to its security, including sectarian infighting and random car bombings, particularly in 2014, when militants linked to al-Qaida and IS overran the border region, kidnapping Lebanese soldiers.

The years-long presence of extremists in the border area has brought suffering to neighboring towns and villages, from shelling, to kidnappings of villagers for ransom. Car bombs made in the area and sent to other parts of the country, including the Lebanese capital, Beirut, have killed scores of citizens.

Aided directly by the United States and Britain, the army has accumulated steady successes against the militants in the past year, slowly clawing back territory, including strategic hills retaken in the past week. Authorities say it's time for an all-out assault.

The planned operation follows a six-day military offensive by the Lebanese Shiite militant group Hezbollah that forced al-Qaida-linked fighters to flee the area on the outskirts of the town of Arsal, along with thousands of civilians.

In a clear distribution of roles, the army is now expected to launch the attack on IS. In the past few days, the army's artillery shells and multiple rocket launchers have been pounding the mountainous areas on the Lebanon-Syria border where IS held positions, in preparation for the offensive. Drones could be heard around the clock and residents of the eastern Bekaa Valley reported seeing army reinforcements arriving daily in the northeastern district of Hermel to join the battle.

The offensive from the Lebanese side of the border will be carried out by the Lebanese army, while Syrian troops and Hezbollah fighters will be working to clear the Syrian side of IS militants. Hezbollah has been fighting alongside Assad's forces since 2013.

Experts say more than 3,000 troops, including elite special forces, are in the northeastern corner of Lebanon to take part in the offensive. The army will likely use weapons it received from the United States, including Cessna aircraft that discharge Hellfire missiles.

Keen to support the army rather than the better equipped Iranian-backed Hezbollah, the U.S. and Britain have supplied the military with helicopters, anti-tank missiles, artillery and radars, as well as training. The American Embassy says the U.S. has provided Lebanon with over $1.4 billion in security assistance since 2005.

But the fight is not expected to be quick or easy.

According to Lebanon's Interior Minister Nouhad Machnouk, there are about 400 IS fighters in the Lebanese area, and hundreds more on the Syrian side of the border.

Dueling factions in Venezuela stake claims at power

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Pro- and anti-government factions dug themselves further into their trenches Monday amid Venezuela's deepening political crisis, with each side staking a claim to the powers granted them by dueling national assemblies.

The new chief prosecutor who replaced an outspoken government critic outlined plans for restructuring the Public Ministry, while the opposition-controlled National Assembly vowed to continue meeting at the stately legislative palace—a short walk across a plaza from where the all-powerful constitutional assembly is expected to hold its next meeting Tuesday.

National Assembly president Julio Borges told fellow lawmakers they should keep an active presence in the building despite threats from the new assembly to swiftly strip them of any authority and lock up key leaders. Borges called the building, with its gold cupola, the "symbol of popular sovereignty."

"We are a testament to the fight for democracy," he said at a meeting cobbled together amid mounting uncertainty about the legislature's future. "It should be known this assembly was true to its mandate."

In theory, both the National Assembly and the pro-government constitutional assembly can rule simultaneously, but the new super body created through a July 30 election that drew international condemnation has the authority to trump any other branch of government—and Venezuela's leaders have promised to do just that.

Since its installation Friday, the constitutional assembly has signaled that it will act swiftly in response to President Nicolas Maduro's commands, which have included calls to strip legislators of their constitutional immunity from prosecution.

"It should be clear: We arrived there to help President Nicolas Maduro," Diosdado Cabello, a leader of the ruling socialist party and member of the new assembly, told a crowd of supporters Monday. "But also, to create strong bases for the construction of Bolivarian and Chavista socialism."

Several hundred pro-government Venezuelans marched to the legislative palace, where opposition lawmakers were inside crafting a resolution disavowing the new assembly.

National Assembly members voted unanimously not to recognize any of the new super-body's decisions, which include removing chief prosecutor Luisa Ortega Diaz from power and installing a "truth commission" that will wield unusual authority to prosecute and levy sentences.

"The intent is to pursue those who think differently," lawmaker Delsa Solorzano said.

Brazil's ambassador to Venezuela, Ruy Pereira, attended the session in a show of support for the congress.

Cabello said that the constitutional assembly's decisions have all aligned strictly with the 1999 constitution crafted by the late President Hugo Chavez and that the new assembly would be in power for "at least two years."

Jordan king in rare West Bank trip seen as message to Israel

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP)—Jordan's king flew by helicopter to the West Bank on Monday—a rare and brief visit seen as a signal to Israel that he is closing ranks with the Palestinians on key issues, such as a contested Jerusalem shrine.

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Abdullah II met for about two hours, after a red-carpet welcome for the monarch at the Palestinian government compound in the West Bank city of Ramallah.

The two leaders discussed the recent showdown with Israel over the Muslim-administered shrine, including confronting alleged Israeli attempts to expand its role there, said Palestinian Foreign Minister Riad Malki.

"This evaluation is very important for us to prepare for the coming stage we expect from Israel and from (Prime Minister Benjamin) Netanyahu personally," Malki said.

Israel has denied allegations by Muslims that it was trying to encroach on their rights at the holy site, which is also revered by Jews.

Abdullah's visit to the West Bank, his first in five years, came at a time of rising Israeli-Jordanian and Israeli-Palestinian tensions over the shrine, known to Muslims as the Noble Sanctuary and to Jews as the Temple Mount.

The crisis erupted when Israel installed metal detectors at gates to the compound after Arab gunmen killed two Israeli policemen there in mid-July. The measures triggered protests by Muslims.

Israel removed the devices after a few days, after intervention from the United States, Jordan and others. The step was seen by many in Israel as a capitulation and by Palestinians and the Arab world as a victory.

The shrine, a sprawling 37-acre (15-hectare) esplanade rising from Jerusalem's walled Old City, is the third holiest site of Islam and the most sacred one in Judaism. It is central to rival Israeli and Palestinian religious and national narratives and has triggered major confrontations in the past.

Jordan serves as the Muslim custodian of the site, home to the Al-Aqsa and Dome of the Rock mosques. Jordan's ruling Hashemite dynasty has drawn much of its legitimacy from that role.

On Sunday, Abdullah told lawmakers in Jordan that "without the Hashemite custodianship and the steadfastness of the Jerusalemites, the holy sites would have been lost many years ago."

"Our success requires one stand with the Palestinian brothers, so that our cause wouldn't be weakened and our rights would be maintained," he said.

However, the monarch's role in the standoff with Israel was complicated by a July 23 shooting in which an Israeli guard at the Israeli Embassy in Jordan killed two Jordanians after one attacked him with a screwdriver.

The guard was released by Jordan the next day, after a phone call between the king and Netanyahu. A few hours later, the metal detectors were dismantled.

The guard's release, though in line with diplomatic protocol, has inflamed Jordanian public opinion, especially after the shooter was given a hero's welcome by Netanyahu. The king blasted the prime minister's actions as "provocative."

Israeli authorities have since said they would investigate the embassy shootings, meeting a Jordanian demand.

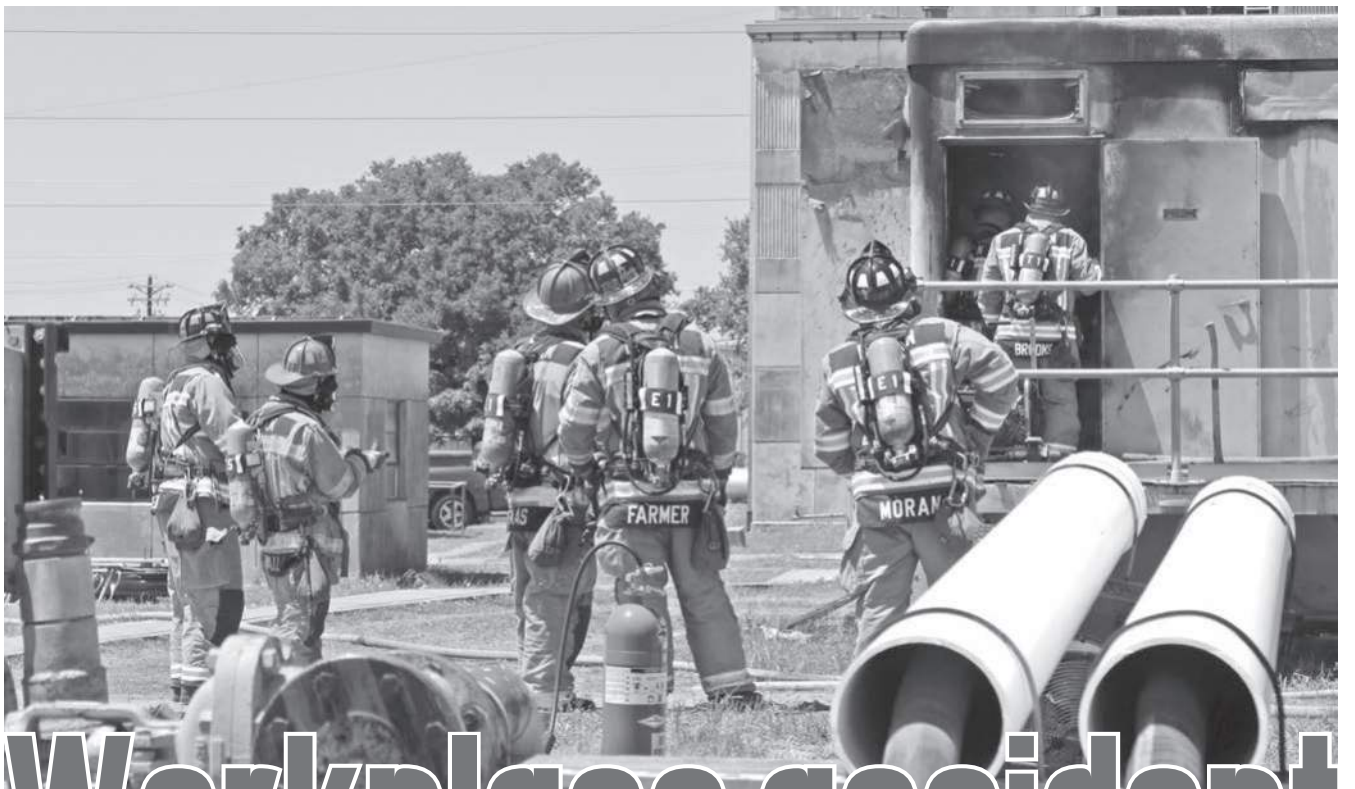
Since the embassy shooting, Abdullah has taken several steps that appeared aimed at appeasing Jordanian public opinion.

He has said he would donate $1.4 million to the Muslim administration of the shrine.

Focus

Older people are dying on the job at a higher rate than workers overall, even as the rate of workplace fatalities decreases, according to an Associated Press analysis of federal statistics.

By MARIA INES ZAMUDIO and MICHELLE MINKOFF
ASSOCIATED PRESS



AP
In this photo provide by the Bryan, Texas Fire Department, taken April 29, 2014, Bryan Texas firefighters stand outside the Bryan Texas Utilities Power Plant following an explosion and fire. Earle Robinson, 60, and other employees were doing maintenance work at Bryan Texas Utilities Power Plant, about 100 miles north of Houston, when there was a loud explosion. Workers called 911 and pleaded for help. Older people are dying on the job at a higher rate than workers overall, even as the rate of workplace fatalities decreases, according to an Associated Press analysis of federal statistics.

Workplace accident

death rate higher for older workers

It's a trend that's particularly alarming as baby boomers reject the traditional retirement age of 65 and keep working. The U.S. government estimates that by 2024, older workers will account for 25 percent of the labor market.

Getting old—and the physical changes associated with it—"could potentially make a workplace injury into a much more serious injury or a potentially fatal injury," said Ken Scott, an epidemiologist with the Denver Public Health Department.

Gerontologists say those changes include gradually worsening vision and hearing impairment, reduced response time, balance issues and chronic medical or muscle or bone problems such as arthritis.

In 2015, about 35 percent of the fatal workplace accidents involved a worker 55 and older—or 1,681 of the 4,836 fatalities reported nationally.

William White, 56, was one of them. White fell 25 feet while working at Testa Produce Inc. on Chicago's South Side. He later died of his injuries.

"I thought it wouldn't happen to him," his son, William White Jr., said in an interview. "Accidents happen. He just made the wrong move."

The AP analysis showed that the workplace fatality rate for all workers—and for those 55 and older—decreased by 22 percent between 2006 and 2015. But the rate of fatal accidents among older workers during that time period was 50 percent to 65 percent higher than for all workers, depending on the year.

The number of deaths among all workers dropped from 5,480 in 2005 to 4,836 in 2015. By contrast, on-the-job fatalities among older workers increased slightly, from 1,562 to 1,681, the analysis shows.

During that time period, the number of older people in the workplace increased by 37 percent. That compares with a 6 percent rise in the population of workers overall.

Ruth Finkelstein, co-director of Columbia University's Aging Center, cautions against stereotyping. She said older people have a range of physical and mental abilities and that it's dangerous to lump all people in an age group together because it could lead to discrimination.

She said she's not sure that older workers need much more protection than younger workers, but agreed there is a need for all workers to have more protection. "We are not paying enough attention to occupational safety in this country," she said.

The AP analysis is based on data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Census for Fatal Occupational Injuries and from one-year estimates from the American Community Survey, which looks at the working population. It excludes cases where the cause of death was from a "natural cause," including a heart attack or stroke.

AP also examined the number and types of accidents in which older workers died between 2011, when the bureau changed the way it categorized accidents, to 2015:

- Fall-related fatalities rose 20 percent.
- Contact with objects and equipment increased 17 percent.
- Transportation accidents increased 15 percent.
- Fires and explosions decreased by 8 percent.

"We expect that there will be more older workers increasing each year and they will represent a greater share (of the fatalities) over the last couple of decades," said Scott, the Denver epidemiologist. "This issue of elevated risk is something we should be paying close attention to."

An Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research poll found in 2013 that 44 percent of older Americans said their job required physical effort most or almost all of the time, and 36 percent said it was more difficult to complete the physical requirements of their jobs than it was when they were younger.

William White Jr. said his father had been working in the same Chicago-based warehouse for over a decade and was a manager when he fell to his death on Sept. 24, 2015.

"My dad was the best at what he did. He's the one who taught me everything I know," the 26-year-old Chicago resident said. "He went up to get an item for the delivery driver and the next thing you know he made a wrong move and fell. The job is fast-pace and everybody is rushing."

Thomas Stiede, principal officer for Teamsters Local 703, said White knew the safety procedures and he can't understand why White didn't wear a safety harness. "He was a very conscientious employee," he said, his voice cracking with emotion.

Testa Inc. was fined $12,600 by the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration for failing to provide safety training. The company declined to comment for this story.

The same year White died, the fatal accident rate in Illinois for older workers was 4.5 per 100,000 workers, 60 percent higher than the comparable rate for all workers.

In most states, the fatal accident rates for older workers were consistently higher than comparable rates for all workers.

Nevada, New Jersey and Washington had the greatest percent increase in fatal accident rates for older workers between 2006 and 2015.

The three states with the biggest percent decrease were Hawaii, Oregon and Vermont.

Eight states saw their overall workplace fatality rate drop, even as the rate for older workers increased: Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, New York, Texas, Utah and Washington.

In two states—North Dakota and Wisconsin—the trend was reversed; older worker accident rates decreased while the accident rate overall increased.

In metropolitan areas, Las Vegas ran counter to the national trend.

In 2006, the fatal accident rate among older workers in the Las Vegas metropolitan area was lower than the rate among all workers. But by 2015, the rate of deaths among older workers more than doubled even as the rate among all workers declined.

Transportation accidents account for a large portion of fatal workplace incidents among both older workers and workers in general.

In one such incident, Ruan Qiang Hua, 58, died last Nov. 21 from injuries suffered in a forklift accident at Good View Roofing and Building Supply warehouse, according to the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration. After a bag of mortar fell from the pallet, Qiang backed up and rolled off a ramp. The forklift tipped over and Qian was crushed when he jumped off.

The agency fined the San Francisco-based company $62,320, saying it had failed to ensure that forklift operators were competent and wore seat belts.

The company is appealing the penalties, according to OSHA.

Records show that Hua was not properly trained or certified as a forklift operator. Video of the incident showed he was not wearing his seatbelt. Other video from the worksite showed that other forklift operators also had not used their seat belts and that the employer failed to install a curb along the sides of the ramp to prevent the lifts from running off the ramp. The company declined to comment.

In California, the 2015 rate of fatal accidents was 3.4 per 100,000 workers for older workers, 60 percent higher than the rate for all workers.

The AP analysis showed that older workers were involved in about 1 in 4 fatal workplace accidents related to fires and explosions from 2011 to 2015.

In April 2014, Earle Robinson, 60, and other employees were doing maintenance work at Bryan Texas Utilities Power Plant, about 100 miles north of Houston, when there was a loud explosion. Workers called 911 and pleaded for help.

"He's in bad shape. He's got a lot of facial burns," according to a transcript of the 911 calls. "He's got some pretty bad burns."

Robinson was taken to a hospital in Houston and died days later. The company declined to comment for this story.

The year Robinson died, the fatality rate among older workers in Texas was 6.1 per 100,000 workers—43 percent higher than the accident rate for all workers.

The National Center for Productive Aging and Work is pushing for changes in the workplace to make it safer for older workers. The year-old center is part of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

"We advocate to make workplaces as age-friendly as possible," said co-director James Grosch. For example, increased lighting helps older workers whose eyesight has weakened with age.

He said the center is emphasizing productive aging and looking at "how people can be more productive, how their wisdom can be leveraged in a workplace."

Good Housekeeping

Gardening tips and chores for August

By JESSICA DAMIANO
NEWSDAY

It's August, and the tomatoes are finally ripening on the vine, the perennials are rampant and, surprisingly, my spring pansies are still holding on. Weeds, too, are digging their heels in, a constant reminder that the garden doesn't ever go on autopilot, even if it appears that way. Here are 31 tips and chores to ensure the garden doesn't look tired by month's end.

1. Resist the urge to let zucchini grow big; they're tastier and more tender if picked when small.

2. Sanitation is important for a healthy garden: Clean up fallen fruit from around trees to prevent pest infestations.

3. To help avoid heat wilt, mist leaves of hybrid tea roses with liquid seaweed.

4. Send a photo of yourself with your tomatoes, along with your growing strategy, to jessica.damiano@newsday.com. The 2017 Tomato Challenge is just two weeks away!

5. For best flavor, harvest herbs in midmorning just after the dew has dried.

6. If you need to relocate evergreens, it's safe to do so from now through October.

7. When watering the lawn, remember: Less frequent deep waterings trump daily sprinkles on established turf.

8. For a second harvest this fall, plant cool-season crops like lettuce, radishes, spinach and peas now.

9. Keep mower blades set to 3 or more inches. Grass blades are leaves, which need to photosynthesize; cut them too short and they'll stress.

10. No need to panic if your evergreens' innermost branches begin to brown. It's normal for older branches to shed this time of year.

11. Re-edge beds to give a fading garden a face-lift.

12. Harvest rose hips for tea or jam — as long as you haven't sprayed your plants.

13. Transplant spring-flowering bulbs that are crowded or needed elsewhere in the garden.

14. Turn off pond pumps when electrical storms are in the forecast.

15. If cabbage heads split, harvest immediately or they'll become inedible.

16. Monitor moisture levels in containers often; potted plants may need to be watered twice a day.

17. Harvest onions when their tops flop over, but let them cure in the sun for a few days before storing indoors.

TNS
Are you backing away when someone tries to give you zucchini?

18. Join me at 7 p.m. for the Great Long Island Tomato Challenge at Newsday (235 Pinelawn Rd., Melville, N.Y.). Bring your biggest homegrown tomato and you might be crowned king or queen.

19. Want free plants next year? Take cuttings of geraniums and wax begonias, and root indoors now. Then care for them as houseplants until spring.

20. Harvest beets when 2 inches wide. You can saute and eat the leaves, too (this is not the case for tomatoes or carrots, which have toxic foliage.)

21. Order spring bulbs now, before the best ones sell out. They'll be shipped in time for fall planting.

22. Collect seeds from day lilies, spider plants, rose campions and other perennials that produce pods. Store in a paper envelope in the fridge, away from fruit, until spring.

23. This is the best time to renovate the lawn. Remove dead patches, aerate, apply compost and seed. Water deeply once, then sprinkle twice a day until 3 inches tall.

24. Don't let weeds go to seed; pull them out by their roots.

25. If houseplants kept outdoors for summer have outgrown their containers, repot now.

26. If you can, leave standard and plum tomatoes on the vine until fully ripe; they'll taste better. Cherry tomatoes ripen just fine on the counter.

27. Divide crowded daylilies after they've stopped blooming.

28. Divide and transplant overgrown and crowded peonies, keeping "eyes" no more than an inch or two below the soil surface.

29. Plant a clover cover crop in cleared-out vegetable beds for a burst of natural nitrogen next spring when you turn it over.

30. Shop end-of-season sales for plant deals — but be choosy; they've been sitting in pots all season.

31. Move outdoor potted plants into the shade to ease them into a move indoors next month. Water as usual.

Peeing on your yard: good or bad? Science has the answer

By BRYANT-JON ANTEOLA
THE FRESNO BEE

Many of us have had that moment when we just couldn't hold it anymore and urinated on the lawn.

Then we were left to wonder, did we harm the grass?

If that sounds familiar … well, maybe you should seek medical treatment or at least learn to hold it until you can reach a bathroom.

But the question remains: Is peeing on a yard bad for the lawn? Any chance that it could actually help?

An article in the September issue of Popular Mechanics examined the science and concluded: It comes down to your, umm, technique.

Urine contains a number of beneficial nutrients also found in commercial fertilizer, such as "nitrogen, a little bit of phosphorus and potassium, which are all needed for a healthy lawn," Owen Duckworth, associate professor of biogeochemistry at North Carolina State University, told Popular Mechanics.

A Lifehack.org article adds that "plants generally need more nitrogen than any other element, as it's used to synthesize amino acids, enzymes, proteins, and chlorophyll."

TNS
A traditional way to maintain a yard would be to use sprinklers. But one report, which cites a professor, states spreading urine mixed with water on the grass could help a yard even more.

But pee also is high in salt and could burn and kill plants at full strength.

The "solution," if you may, is to dilute the urine.

So rather than wildly going about your business in the yard, how about urinating in a watering can (your neighbors certainly will be much happier), then adding water before pouring it through the container's spout.

"I generally recommend a 2-to-1 (water-to-urine) dilution to be safe," Ray Weil, a professor in the Department of Environmental Science and Technology at the University of Maryland, told Popular Mechanics. "Urine is simply too concentrated for most plants to withstand when either applied to the leaves or even to the soil around especially younger plants."

One woman even took to YouTube to demonstrate a way of fertilizing plants with body fluids, though it's not exactly the method professors recommended.

Remember, practice makes perfect.

Just practice on your yard and not anyone else's.

In loving memory of

ANTONIO GUILIMON ADRIANO

Also known as "Tony"

Our beloved was born on January 01, 1954
and was called to his eternal rest on
August 01, 2017 at the age of 63

In eternal life he now joins his:
Parents: Jose Guzman & Margarita Guilimon Adriano
Brothers: Juan & Joaquin Guilimon Adriano

He will be dearly missed by:
Children: Alvin Camacho & Claudia Tenorio Adriano (Christian, Elijah & Eva)
Claudia Camacho Adriano
Laureen Adriano & Jonathan Celis
Adrianne Bonita P. Adriano
Aldreen Adriano
Brother, Sister & Spouses:
Vicente Guilimon & Celina Borja Adriano, Children, Grandchildren, & Great Grandchildren.
Jose Guilimon & Alicia Manglona Adriano, Children & Grandchildren.
Petra Adriano & Henry Mendiola Cabrera, Children & Grandchildren.
The children & grandchildren of the late Joaquin Guilimon Adriano.

On Thursday August 10, 2017 at 8:00am his remains will be escorted from the Tinian Health Center Morgue to the San Jose Parish Church immediately followed by viewing, responso, and Holy Rosary.
Mass of the Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m.
followed by interment services at the Tinian Cemetery.
Lunch to follow at the San Jose Parish Church Grounds.

Your untiring support and continued heartfelt prayers are sincerely appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase. God bless you all.

From: The Family

Life & Style

Taylor Swift trial enters second day of jury selection

DENVER (AP) — A jury of eight is expected to be seated Tuesday in Taylor Swift's civil trial involving a groping allegation against a former Denver DJ.

More than 10 candidates were immediately dismissed during the first day of jury selection Monday, and more than 30 potential jurors are due back in court Tuesday.

The jury is expected to be seated by the afternoon.

Jurors will try to decide whether a radio host groped the pop superstar during a photo op before a concert in Denver in 2013 — and whether she and her team got him fired. They also are being asked to determine not just whose story to believe but what to make of a photograph that both sides say proves their case.

The photo shows David Mueller with his right hand behind the singer, just below her waist, before a 2013 concert. It's inconclusive whether he's touching her. Both are smiling.

Based on court records, here's a look at that and other key elements in the he-said, she-said trial in federal court in Denver.

Tree Paine, publicist for pop singer Taylor Swift, walks back to a hotel after attending the jury selection phase in a civil trial in federal court, Monday, Aug. 7, 2017, in Denver, to determine whether a radio host groped the pop singer. AP

THE PHOTOGRAPH

Swift's lawyers called the image "damning" proof that Mueller inappropriately touched her. Mueller argues it shows him trying to jump into the frame.

Entertainment news outlet TMZ obtained and published the photo, which has since been sealed by the court.

Swift's business manager, Jesse Schaudies Jr., said her side did not want the picture in the news.

"We did not want copycats and one-uppers abounding. And that happens in our world," he testified last year. "These people all tend to escalate. I've watched what happens with these files and individuals."

The encounter

Swift says: "He took his hand and put it up my dress and grabbed onto my ass cheek."

Immediately after the meet-and-greet, Swift says, she confirmed the assault with a photographer and security staff, who then confronted Mueller.

Mueller says he told the security staff: "Please call the police. I didn't do anything."

Swift's security guard was about 3 feet (about 1 meter) away during the meet-and-greet, Mueller says. Swift remained pleasant as she bid Mueller and his girlfriend goodbye, he says, and more than a dozen people met with Swift after Mueller left.

The aftermath

Swift said: "It was not an accident. It was completely intentional, and I have never been so sure of anything in my life."

A member of Swift's staff called Mueller's boss at radio station KYGO and asked that the station "take appropriate action."

Swift maintains she was sexually assaulted, but she was trying to keep the matter discreet and quiet. She says she does not know Mueller and has no incentive to target him or to fabricate a story.

Mueller's boss said the DJ told him during an internal investigation that any contact during the photo op was incidental or accidental.

Other key witnesses

n Andrea Swift, the singer's mother, will testify about the decision to contact Mueller's boss and not call the police.

■ Frank Bell, a member of the singer's team, will testify about why he contacted Mueller's bosses at KYGO and what was said. Bell and Andrea Swift are also defendants in Mueller's lawsuit.

■ Shannon Melcher, Mueller's girlfriend at the time, will testify about standing on the other side of Swift when the photo was taken, and to Mueller's character.

■ Greg Dent, Swift's bodyguard, may be called to testify about what he saw during the encounter.

Yo-Yo Ma's concert plea helps bring friend's lost puppy home

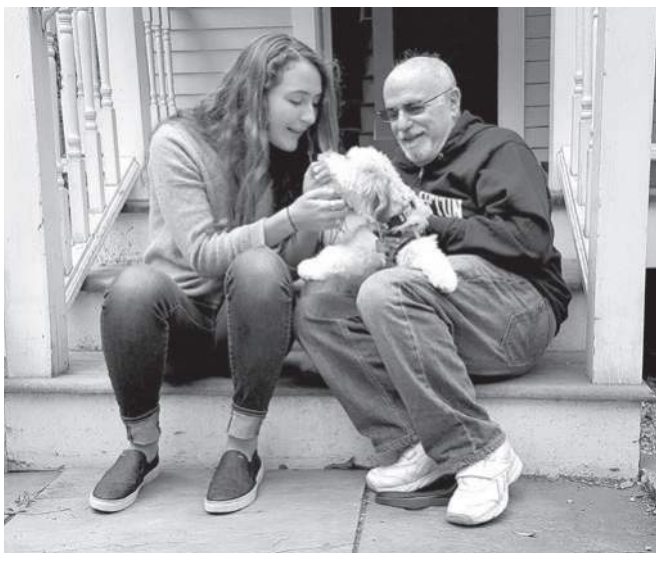
LENOX, Mass. (AP)—With Yo-Yo Ma's help, a friend was able to bring his lost puppy home.

The cellist on Sunday made an impassioned plea to nearly 14,000 concertgoers after a matinee at Tanglewood in Massachusetts to ask them to help find conductor David Zinman's lost puppy.

The 4-month-old Havanese named Carlito had vanished that morning and Zinman was afraid the puppy would get run over by a car or snatched by a coyote. Ma considers Zinman one of his greatest mentors.

Grace Ellrodt didn't attend the show but heard about the lost dog from concertgoers and family.

She and her boyfriend were driving in Lenox that night when they spotted the lost puppy in the road. She says she knew right way it was Carlito.



In this photo provided by the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Grace Ellrodt, left, and conductor David Zinman sit with Zinman's puppy Carlito outside his home Monday, Aug. 7, 2017, in Lenox, Mass. AP

Romance novel model denies robbing banks, convenience store

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)—A tattooed romance novel cover model from California has pleaded not guilty to robbing two banks and a convenience store in Connecticut.

The Hartford Courant reports that 34-year-old David Byers, of Solano Beach, was ordered held without bail at his arraignment Friday in Hartford federal court.

Police say Byers robbed a Chase Bank twice and a Citgo gas station in Greenwich in April.

Police say Byers evaded officers in Connecticut, New York and Pennsylvania before his arrest in the San Diego area in May. Police noted a neck tattoo when they released a description of the suspect.

A Los Angeles photographer who has worked with Byers says the suspect has appeared on the covers of four romance novels.

'Top Chef' host testifies about confrontation with Teamster

BOSTON (AP)—Padma Lakshmi, the host of the "Top Chef" reality TV show, testified Monday that she was "petrified" when a Teamster confronted her while union members were picketing outside a Boston-area restaurant where the series filmed in 2014.

Lakshmi

Lakshmi, who is also an author and model, said she was a passenger in a vehicle outside the Steel & Rye restaurant in Milton, just south of Boston, where a group of men had formed a line so vehicles could not move forward. She said one man leaned his arm on her door and said: " 'Oh, lookie here, what a pretty face' or 'What a shame about that pretty face.' "

"I felt he was bullying me," Lakshmi said. "I felt he was saying, 'I might hit you.' "

Lakshmi's testimony came during the federal trial of four members of Teamsters Local 25. The men have pleaded not guilty to charges of conspiracy to extort, and aiding and abetting.

Prosecutors allege they threatened and harassed the crew of the Bravo show's non-union production company. They claim the Teamsters were trying to shut down the filming of "Top Chef" if the show did not hire Teamsters to drive production vehicles. The show had already hired its own drivers.

Lakshmi said the man who spoke to her also shouted something "derogatory" to her driver.

"I could hear a lot of yelling, exchanges," she said. "They all seemed heated up."

Lakshmi said she does not have any role in hiring for the production company.

Gail Simmons, a judge on "Top Chef," also testified Monday, saying she was "incredibly afraid" as she arrived at the restaurant and saw the men block the vehicle's path.

"One of the men put his head into the van and started yelling at us," Simmons said.

Lawyers for the teamsters have said the men were merely exercising their right to picket for driving jobs. They've said "Top Chef" crew members escalated the incident in Milton.

Ed Sheeran, Miley Cyrus, Katy Perry to perform at MTV VMAs

NEW YORK (AP)—Ed Sheeran, Miley Cyrus, the Weeknd and host Katy Perry will perform at the MTV Video Music Awards later this month.

MTV announced Monday that Lorde, Shawn Mendes, Fifth Harmony and Thirty Seconds to Mars will also hit the stage Aug. 27 at the Forum in Inglewood, California.

More performers will be announced at a later date.

Kendrick Lamar is the top VMA contender with eight nominations. His hit, "Humble," will compete for video of the year with Bruno Mars' "24K Magic," DJ Khaled and Rihanna's "Wild Thoughts," the Weeknd's "Reminder" and Alessia Cara's "Scars to Your Beautiful."

Sheeran is nominated for artist of the year along with Lamar, Mars, Ariana Grande, Lorde and the Weeknd.

AP

This combination photo shows musicians, from left, Ed Sheeran, Katy Perry, The Weeknd and Miley Cyrus, who will perform at the MTV Video Music Awards on Aug. 27 at the Forum in Inglewood, Calif.

Hackers demand millions in ransom for stolen HBO data

NEW YORK (AP)—Hackers using the name "Mr. Smith" posted a fresh cache of stolen HBO files online Monday, and demanded that HBO pay a ransom of several million dollars to prevent further such releases.

The data dump included what appear to be scripts from five "Game of Thrones" episodes, including one upcoming episode, and a month's worth of email from the account of Leslie Cohen, HBO's vice president for film programming. There were also internal documents, including a report of legal claims against the network and job offer letters to top executives.

HBO, which previously acknowledged the theft of "proprietary information," said it's continuing to investigate and is working with police and cybersecurity experts. The network said Monday that it still doesn't believe that its email system as a whole has been compromised.

AP

This image released by HBO shows Nikolaj Coster-Waldau as Jaime Lannister in an episode of "Game of Thrones," which aired Sunday, Aug. 6.

This is the second data dump from the purported hacker. So far the HBO leaks have been limited, falling well short of the chaos inflicted on Sony in 2014. In that attack, hackers unearthed thousands of embarrassing emails and released personal information, including salaries and social security numbers, of nearly 50,000 current and former Sony employees.

Those behind the HBO hack claim to have more data, including scripts, upcoming episodes of HBO shows and movies, and information damaging to HBO.

In a video directed to HBO CEO Richard Plepler, "Mr. Smith" used white text on a black background to threaten further disclosures if HBO doesn't pay up. To stop the leaks, the purported hackers demanded "our 6 month salary in bitcoin," which they implied is at least $6 million.

3-D version of Michael Jackson's 'Thriller' set for debut

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The estate of Michael Jackson says a 3-D version of the late singer's iconic "Thriller" video is set to debut at the Venice Film Festival more than 30 years after its original premiere.

The estate says the "latest available technology" was used to convert the 14-minute short film from an original 35mm negative to 3-D.

Although the film wasn't reedited or recut in any way, director John Landis says he was able to "use the 3-D creatively" and promises "a rather shocking surprise."

"Michael Jackson's Thriller" debuted in theaters and on television in 1983. An hour-long documentary detailing the making of the video will also screen at the Venice festival, which runs from Aug. 30 to Sept. 9.

Jackson died in 2009 at the age of 50.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Bratton and Klieman to be honored by NY Historical Society

NEW YORK (AP)—Former police chief William J. Bratton and his wife, defense lawyer and actress-TV analyst Rikki Klieman, are being honored by the New-York Historical Society. Bratton and Klieman are this year's winners of the History Makers Award, the society told The Associated Press on Monday. Bratton twice served as commissioner of the New York City Police Department, most recently from 2014-16. Klieman has appeared on TV series such as "Las Vegas" and "Blue Bloods," and is a legal analyst for "CBS This Morning." On Nov. 7, Klieman will interview Bratton at the society's History Makers Gala. Previous winners of the History Makers Award include Hillary Clinton, Lin-Manuel Miranda and brothers Ken and Ric Burns.

Crackle's 'SuperMansion' special promises Halloween fun

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The stop-action animated series "SuperMansion" is getting spooky this Halloween. Streaming service Crackle said Monday that a new special, "SuperMansion: Drag Me to Halloween," will debut Oct. 5. Lake Bell and Phil LaMarr will guest star. Bell and LaMarr will add their voices to those of cast members including Bryan Cranston and Keegan-Michael Key. The "SuperMansion" series tracks the exploits of Titanium Rex, voiced by Cranston, as he fights alongside younger and less motivated members of the League of Freedom. Crackle says the Halloween special's adventurous fun will include beautiful ghosts, demonic spirits and evil dentists.

Woman's dangerous dating habits frighten her friend

DEAR ABBY: I'm worried about a close friend I have known for about 10 years. She's well-educated, independent and family-oriented. She has been online dating for quite a while and continually meets guys who have criminal backgrounds.

She dated one of them on the down low for two years because she was embarrassed by how he behaved in public. The most recent man served a 16-year prison sentence for being involved in a murder.

She tells me she doesn't see a future with any of them, but goes on multiple dates and defends them with, "He seems like a nice guy." In the next breath, she'll claim to want a steady and meaningful relationship.

I have voiced my concerns. I asked her what she'd say to me if the tables were turned, and her responses mimic the concern I show her. I suggested she try a different website or mode of meeting potential partners, but it hasn't made a difference.

I believe in second chances up to a point, but now I'm genuinely worried for her safety. Is there anything else I can do to convince her to have safer boundaries?

CONCERNED ABOUT CRIMINALS

DEAR CONCERNED: No, you have done enough. Until your friend admits to herself that she's fishing for trout in the wrong stream, she'll continue to reel in sharks.

DEAR ABBY: Is it normal for men to sulk or get angry when they don't get sex when they want it? I've been married to my husband for more than 30 years. I run several miles a day and, with all the work I do, I don't always feel like having sex. Lately, I have been under a lot of stress, so I haven't been in the mood.

The other night, he did his usual sulking. Then, as he often does, he tossed about in bed, repeatedly and roughly, while we're trying to sleep. The whole bed shook. Another night, he stuck his elbow in my ribs to be sure he got my attention.

Sometimes he'll grab my butt really hard while I'm trying to sleep—in the middle of the night, mind you. I end up having sex with him so he leaves me alone and I can sleep.

I have tried sleeping in another bed. But then he comes to that room and repeatedly kicks the mattress. If I lock the door, he kicks the door. So, I have sex with him so I can live in peace. Do most men do this when they don't get sex as often as they like?

SPOUSE SULKING IN THE NORTH

DEAR SPOUSE: You have tolerated this for 30 years? What you have described is spousal abuse. Most men do not behave the way your husband does, bullying and coercing their wives into marital relations. Please discuss this with a licensed mental health professional. His behavior is off the charts, and you need more help than I can give you in a letter.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: I have a question. If you are traveling with a group of friends on a plane, is it rude for one couple to upgrade to first class? This was a group trip traveling to go on a cruise together.

JUST WONDERING IN FLORIDA

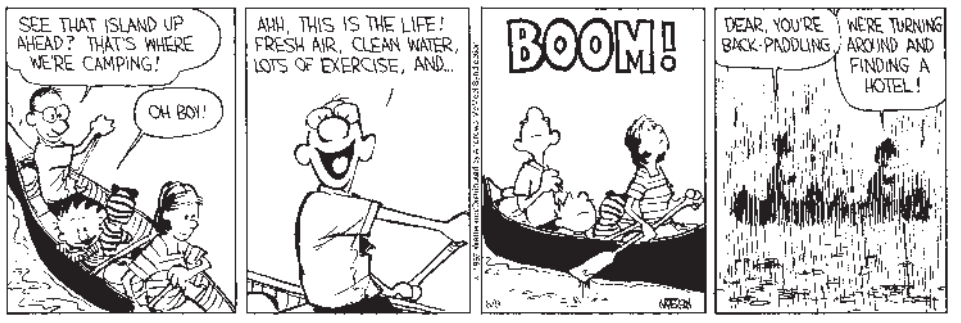
DEAR JUST WONDERING: I wouldn't call it a breach of etiquette. However, it's less than an expression of solidarity with the friends who are sitting in the back. Personally, I think it sends a wrong message and could cause resentment unless there's a practical reason the couple needs the extra space—long legs, a bad back, a weight problem, etc.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

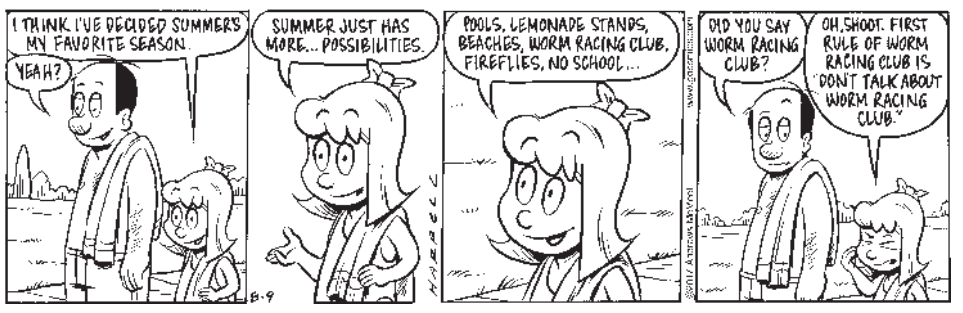

SEE THAT ISLAND UP AHEAD? THAT'S WHERE WE'RE CAMPING!
OH BOY!
AHH, THIS IS THE LIFE! FRESH AIR, CLEAN WATER, LOTS OF EXERCISE, AND...
BOOM!
DEAR, YOU'RE BACK-PADDLING.
WE'RE TURNING AROUND AND FINDING A HOTEL!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


I THINK I'VE DECIDED SUMMER'S MY FAVORITE SEASON.
YEAH?
SUMMER JUST HAS MORE... POSSIBILITIES.
POOLS, LEMONADE STANDS, BEACHES, WORM RACING CLUB, FIREFLIES, NO SCHOOL...
DID YOU SAY WORM RACING CLUB?
OH, SHOOT. FIRST RULE OF WORM RACING CLUB IS DON'T TALK ABOUT WORM RACING CLUB.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

BWAH! HAW! HA! HAW! HA! HA HAW!
BWAH! HA-HA! HAW! HAW! HA! HA! HA!
THAT'S ONE HILARIOUS WEATHERMAN.
I FEEL BAD LAUGHING AT THE HURRICANE JOKE.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Recedes
5 Cooking fuel
8 Urban haze
12 Golf hazard
13 Strike caller
14 Andean land
15 Happy-go-lucky
17 Rhyming tributes
18 Harry Potter's owl
19 Manet or Monet
21 Erie Canal mule
22 Campus mil. group
23 Ninny
26 Sawbuck
28 One of Franklin's certainties
31 Two-wheeler
33 Badly lit
35 Zwei follower
36 Backbone
38 Male turkey
40 Tel. number add-on
41 Peace-keeping org.
43 PBS funder
45 Desert plants
47 Ancient Greek state
51 Rat- —
52 Haggard
54 Rid of rind
55 Curved line
56 Slightly
57 Molt
58 Fan's cry
59 Farm fathers

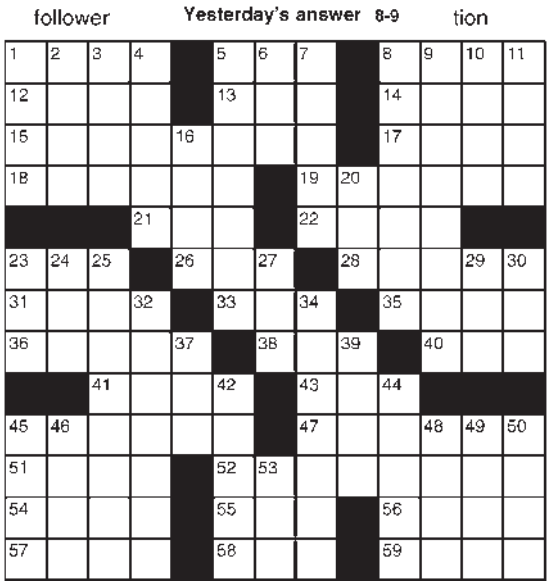
DOWN

1 Engrave
2 Scottish hillside
3 Poet of yore
4 Jets forth
5 Babbled, like a baby
6 Soul, to Sartre
7 Asparagus unit
8 Espied
9 Government health program
10 Raw materials
11 Sudden wind
16 Authoritative order
20 Scepter
23 Tummy muscles
24 Small taste
25 Olay's business
27 Little louse
29 — -Mex cuisine
30 Smack
32 Made into law
34 Large butterfly
37 JFK info
39 Apportion
42 Film trophy
44 Fighting
45 Puppy barks
46 Beehive State
48 Tiny bit
49 Stuff tightly
50 &&&&
53 Altar constellation

Solution time: 23 mins.

C	U	R	E	■	B	L	T	■	P	A	D	S
O	N	O	R	■	L	A	D	■	O	B	I	E
P	I	I	S	I	O	P	S	■	P	U	C	E
A	I	E	■	C	K	S	■	E	S	I	E	R
■	■	■	P	O	E	■	M	V	I	■	■	■
M	O	R	O	N	■	J	R	A	N	I	U	M
A	G	E	L	■	A	S	I	■	G	A	L	E
R	I	C	O	T	T	A	■	T	E	N	T	H
■	■	■	S	U	M	■	M	E	R	■	■	■
R	I	G	H	T	■	L	Y	E	■	P	C	S
O	M	N	I	■	P	A	W	N	S	H	O	P
S	P	U	R	■	U	M	A	■	P	I	M	A
A	S	S	T	■	B	A	Y	■	A	L	A	N

Yesterday's answer 8-9



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Anna Kendrick, 32; Tyson Gay, 35; Hoda Kotb, 53; Gillian Anderson, 49.

Happy Birthday: Shake things up a bit. A change will do you good. Look for new activities, projects and people to share new interests with. Expand your mind and bring new energy to the skills, services and attributes you have to offer. Create new goals and embrace new beginnings. Don't be afraid to do things differently. Stand out and make an impression. Your numbers are 4, 11, 17, 21, 28, 33, 48.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Business and personal relationships should be handled carefully. You should aim to please, but not at the expense of giving up what's important to you. Serious discussions will help you come to a solution as well as a decision. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Take heed of what's going on around you. Don't feel compelled to keep up with someone who is recklessly plunging into unknown territory. It's best to play it safe than to end up being sorry. Do your own thing. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Physical activity will help ease stress. Don't give anyone the benefit of the doubt. If something doesn't add up, move on. Protect your emotions, your personal information and your reputation. Size things up and act accordingly. Home improvements are featured. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Physical and mental improvements will result in greater confidence and an emotional revelation that will help you make a decision about a partnership you are considering. Live within your means and avoid people who are a poor influence. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): An open mind will lead to positive changes. Create an opportunity to learn or to discover, and develop skills that will help you raise your income. Don't buy into someone else's plan when you should be investing in your own. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): You'll be drawn into a situation at home if you or someone close to you is too demanding. Search for a way to please everyone. Sticking to a budget may be tough, but with a little ingenuity, good results will unfold. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Emotional matters will not be easy to conceal. Getting to the bottom of a situation will require trust and honesty. Be direct, but don't share personal information regarding your passwords, finances or assets. Find out where you stand first. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Use your intelligence and common sense to navigate your way through any troubles that arise. An emotional plea will help you gain trust as well as favors from people you have associated with in the past. Reveal your feelings. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Emotions will interfere with your sense of clarity. Focus inward and concentrate on what you can do to improve your skills, knowledge and your position. Rely on your ability to gather information and tune out anyone who tries to manipulate you. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Personal money matters, health issues and settlements will be masked with innuendoes that have no merit. Do your due diligence to ensure that you are not fleeced by someone who tries to take advantage of you. Protect your reputation and your assets. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Don't give in to temptation or someone trying to persuade you to buy into a product or service that promises unlikely results. Trust in yourself when dealing with personal matters concerning a child or parent. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Confusion and uncertainty revolving around important relationships can be expected. Setbacks regarding travel or communication can be expected. Offer honesty in regard to how you feel and what you want to see happen. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are unique, creative and intuitive. You are energetic and progressive.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	7	4	9					
			7	8	2	4	5	
		8				7		
		3					8	
		1				5	9	4
	5	9	8		1	3		7
8	4		3		6			5
6			2			1	4	
	3	5						

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	4	6	1	7	5	3	8	9
9	3	8	6	4	2	7	1	5
1	5	7	3	8	9	4	6	2
5	6	2	7	1	3	8	9	4
7	8	3	4	9	6	5	2	1
4	1	9	5	2	8	6	3	7
8	9	5	2	6	7	1	4	3
6	7	1	9	3	4	2	5	8
3	2	4	8	5	1	9	7	6

Difficulty level ★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

CHARCUTERIE BOARDS & MORE Solution: 8 letters

C	S	G	I	F	C	R	E	T	T	A	L	P	R	G
D	H	E	S	D	A	E	R	P	S	W	I	O	A	N
P	O	I	T	A	S	T	E	T	O	R	V	R	G	I
T	I	O	C	A	A	T	U	O	R	T	E	K	U	V
U	S	K	F	K	P	N	Ⓓ	E	X	T	R	O	S	E
R	C	A	E	A	E	R	O	Ⓛ	I	V	E	S	A	I
K	S	N	L	C	E	N	O	C	Ⓞ	K	H	E	U	S
E	E	U	R	M	I	S	I	S	A	Ⓒ	U	F	S	C
Y	R	T	L	U	O	P	E	L	C	B	M	R	A	A
E	R	A	H	S	T	N	S	C	E	I	M	U	G	R
S	A	B	R	I	N	E	D	L	I	S	U	I	E	D
E	N	S	F	D	E	D	A	O	L	L	S	T	S	A
E	O	N	A	E	L	D	E	T	L	A	S	U	T	M
H	O	I	M	A	L	A	S	I	S	O	M	S	O	O
C	O	O	K	E	D	E	T	N	E	M	R	E	F	M

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Attorney for Petitioner/Claimant Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

BERLINDA C. FLAWAU-QUITANO, Decedent.

Civil Action No. 17-0162

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION; NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Date: August 17, 2017
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Judge: Joseph N. Camacho

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE BERLINDA C. FLAWAU-QUITANO OR OF HER ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner, Bank of Guam of Saipan, CNMI ("Petitioner"), has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for Letter of Administration of the **Estate of Berlinda C. Flawau-Quitano, Decedent. The attorney for Petitioner is Robert T. Torres, Esq., whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.**

The hearing on the Petition for Letters of Administration by **Bank of Guam**, as Petitioner, is scheduled to be heard on August 17, 2017 at 9:00 a.m., at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guma' Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors or entities having claims against the Decedent or her estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within Sixty (60) days of this publication, or the claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to ROBERT TENORIO TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.

Dated this July 18, day of July, 2017.

/s/ Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk

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Northern Marianas Humanities Council
Navigating the Human Experience

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Program Officer
Northern Marianas Humanities Council

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council (Council) is inviting dynamic, motivated, and self-driven individuals with strong interest in the humanities to submit an employment application for the position of Program Officer.

The Program Officer is responsible for developing and implementing a variety of humanities programs and events and coordinating the Council's Community Grants program under the supervision of the Council's executive director. A detailed description of the Program Officer's duties may be obtained from the Council's office in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai or from the Council's website at www.nmihumanities.org.

Applicants for this position must possess: (1). strong analytic, writing and communication skills; (2). knowledge of grants writing and grants administration; (3). the ability to work effectively with people from diverse backgrounds; (4). a working knowledge of NMI history and of current political, social and economic issues confronting the local community; (5). basic computer skills including knowledge of MS Excel, Word and PowerPoint; and (6). the ability to articulate the Council's mission to a wide range of audiences.

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree (B.A. or B.S.) in a humanities discipline from an accredited post-secondary institution. The salary range is from $35,000 to $40,000 depending on qualifications and experience. Benefits are set forth in the Council's Personnel Policy Manual.

Interested individuals are invited to send an application package including: (1). letter of interest; (2). detailed résumé; (3). a writing sample (500-800 words on a humanities topic of your choice); and (4). the names and addresses of three references to Scott Russell, Executive Director, Northern Marianas Humanities Council, Box 506407, Saipan, MP 96950. Complete application packages must be received by Council staff on or before 4:00 p.m. on Friday 1 September 2017. For more information about this employment opportunity please contact Council staff at 235-4785.

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Gase: Cutler didn't delay retirement to stand on sideline

DAVIE, Fla. (AP)—New Miami Dolphins quarterback Jay Cutler won't play in the team's exhibition opener Thursday, but look for him to be starting soon enough.

"He didn't come out of retirement to stand on the sideline," coach Adam Gase said.

Cutler missed Monday's practice because it took place as he landed in South Florida to sign a $10 million, one-year contract. The 34-year-old Cutler decided to delay the start of his network TV career for the chance to replace Ryan Tannehill and be reunited with Gase, his former offensive coordinator with the Chicago Bears.

"A situation like this doesn't come along very often," said Cutler, wearing a polo shirt bearing the Dolphins logo. "I know Adam very well; I know the system. And you're talking about a playoff team with a lot of really, really good players and a lot of potential."

Cutler is expected to leapfrog longtime Dolphins backup Matt Moore for the starting job while Tannehill remains out with a left knee injury that likely will sideline him for the entire season.

Gase reached out to Cutler shortly after Tannehill was hurt Thursday and said the former Bear needed no persuading to launch a comeback. But Cutler likened the conversations with Gase to college recruiting, saying the decision to return was difficult.

He parted with the Bears in March after eight seasons, and was then hired by Fox as an analyst to work in its No. 2 NFL broadcast booth.

"The last four months I've been in a different mindset, getting ready for the Fox deal," Cutler said. "I was pretty good with where I was in my life; I was around the kids a lot and felt pretty content. So I went back and forth on this. My wife talked me into it more than anybody else. ... I think she got tired of me being around the house."

AP

New Miami Dolphins quarterback Jay Cutler speaks at a news conference during an NFL football training camp, Monday, Aug. 7, 2017, in Davie, Fla.

In 2015, Cutler had a career-best quarterback rating while with Gase, who then joined the Dolphins. What will Cutler's learning curve be with the offensive scheme?

"I'm pretty sure he's already got it," Gase said. "He's good."

Ramping up Cutler's arm strength may take longer, Gase said.

"I'm sure he wasn't in the backyard throwing a hundred balls a day," the coach said.

Cutler said his two sons and pickup basketball games at his alma mater, Vanderbilt, helped him stay in shape. He missed time last year with a sprained right thumb and a labrum injury that required season-ending right shoulder surgery in December, but said he's healthy now and confident his arm will be fine.

"It'll come back pretty quickly," Cutler said. "I'm not worried about the throwing part. Getting used to the guys and the more detailed stuff, that's what we're going to have to hit the fast-forward button on."

The acquisition of Cutler has potential to divide a locker room where Moore enjoys strong support, especially after he helped Miami clinch a playoff berth while Tannehill was sidelined last December.

But Gase is popular with his players and said he explained to them why he wanted Cutler.

"I was very upfront with everything," Gase said. "We felt this gave us an opportunity to have two really good quarterbacks on our team. We wanted to make sure if something happened, we weren't going to have a falloff. I think our guys understand that."

That includes Moore. He said he still considers himself a contender for the starting job after a drama-free conversation with Gase about the need to sign Cutler.

"It was very simple and straightforward," he said. "It wasn't very Hollywood. And I get it."

Receiver Kenny Stills said that while Moore is "our guy," there's no quarterback controversy among the players.

"We're confident in the people upstairs to do the right thing for this team," Stills said.

Still to be determined is how quickly Cutler can shake off the rust and lingering doubts about his attitude, toughness and decision-making, all of which were often questioned in Chicago.

He went 51-51 as a Bears starter. Among his teammates was guard Jermon Bushrod, now with Miami.

"I know the guy," Bushrod said. "I've seen how he is in the huddle. I've seen how he is in the locker room. The message portrayed by some of the major broadcasting networks isn't what we see or feel.

"People are going to have things to say. But if you win games, nobody says anything."

Cutler's chance to revise his reputation came after Tannehill's left knee buckled a week into training camp. He decided against surgery after missing the final four games of last season with two sprained ligaments in his knee, but the latest injury likely will require an operation.

Tannehill stood near midfield Monday watching practice, wearing a brace on his left knee and conversing with the coaching staff and quarterbacks.

"We were talking about the stages you go through," Gase said. "We were both saying we keep going out of order—from denial to anger to depressed, and back to denial. It's tough."

There's already speculation about Tannehill and Cutler beyond this season, but the Dolphins' new quarterback isn't worried about 2018. He's worried about Tuesday.

"I just want to get to the next meeting and figure out where the dining room is," Cutler said. "Then we'll start running the offense and learning some guys' names."

Marshawn Lynch big hit with Raiders

NAPA, Calif. (AP)—Marshawn Lynch plowed through the line, dreadlocks swaying on a rare cool summer morning in Napa, then juggled the football to the delight of hundreds cheering from nearby bleachers.

They raised phone cameras to capture the self-proclaimed MoneyLynch's every move. A film crew tails him at times, too.

It's Marshawn Mania in wine country. And Lynch sure seems to be loving the attention of his un-retirement, back in that familiar No. 24 jersey, just different colors now that he's with his hometown team.

Lynch joined the Oakland Raiders on a restructured two-year deal following an April trade from Seattle, where he had retired following the 2015 season. Now he has a chance to keep Derek Carr and Co. contending for an AFC West title and a shot at the Super Bowl.

"He's going to run through some people's faces, I think that's what he's going to do," Carr said. "He's going to protect the quarterback. ... He's good at that. Very physical. That part of the game is fun to him. I tend to like to slide or go over people, and he likes to go through them, so I don't have to do it."

The Raiders returned to the playoffs for the first time in 14 years then lost in the wild card game at Houston last season without Carr, who went down with a broken right fibula Dec. 24 against Denver as Oakland missed out on a division title.

Lynch has brought some new life to an already deep and talented team.

"Let's go, Beast Mode!" one man yelled as Lynch jogged by between periods.

There's no question Lynch has boosted the morale of a stung fan base dreading the Raiders' move to Las Vegas in three years.

Alex King, a 23-year-old lifelong Raiders fan from Salinas, sported his Lynch jersey with a leather vest over it and spiked leather cuff bracelets Friday in a front-row seat off the practice field.

"I really like that he's doing a real good thing for his town," King said. "He's always been good for the city, he has never been a ghost and left his city. For him to come back to the team he's always wanted to play for, it's really good for the city and the team itself."

Lynch has been even more visible in Oakland than ever. He saved a soul food restaurant, led a bike ride through town in May and offered tickets to a water park for 2,000 kids.

On the field, Oakland has a healthy quarterback and Lynch eager to take the ball and run.

The 31-year-old running back has quickly become a training camp phenomenon and big-personality bright spot for that "Just Win, Baby!" fan base.

"When I think of Marshawn, I think of passion because he's a very passionate player," coach Jack Del Rio said. "I think of toughness and physicality. I think he brings those things to our football team. He's been a terrific teammate, been great from Day 1. Everything has been really outstanding with him and him joining us and fitting in with our guys. I think they love him. We love having him, so it's great. He's healthy and in good shape and ready to have a good year for us."

Lynch carried for at least 10 touchdowns every year from 2011 to 2014, including a career-best 13 during the '14 season to help lead the Seattle Seahawks to a Super Bowl title. Lynch's 51 TDs rushing are the most in the NFL since 2011 even though he played just seven games in 2015 and was retired last season.

The Raiders can't wait to see him in pads and when it all counts.

"He's a fun guy to be around all the time. He's a great teammate. He's fun in meetings. He's fun in the meal room," offensive coordinator Todd Downing said. "It's certainly nice to see him out there and running around and moving the way he is. We're really pleased with where he's at."

Lynch already said the reason he even considered coming out of retirement was to give something back to Oakland before the Raiders depart for Sin City in 2020.

"It's going to be good for all of us. It'll be especially nice for those that know Marshawn in a personal way that followed him throughout his career, having played right there in Cal and grown up in the Bay Area," Del Rio said. "It's awesome, so I'm sure it will be special for a lot of people."

Machado's grand slam upstages Trout, Orioles beat Angels, 6-2

ANAHEIM, CALIF. (AP)—Mike Trout got his 1,000th career hit and also homered on his 26th birthday, but Manny Machado hit a tiebreaking grand slam in the seventh inning of the Baltimore Orioles' 6-2 victory over the Los Angeles Angels on Monday night.

Trout doubled down the left-field line in the fourth inning to become the 11th player with 1,000 hits in an Angels uniform. The two-time AL MVP also tied it in the sixth by homering on his birthday for the fourth time in his six-year career, sending his 23rd of the season high off the left-field pole.

Machado connected moments later against J.C. Ramirez (10-10) for his fifth career grand slam.

Dylan Bundy (11-8) recorded a career-high 10 strikeouts while pitching seven innings of five-hit ball for the Orioles.

Baltimore won the opener of a three-game series between two teams on the fringe of the AL wild-card race. The Orioles have won eight of 10, while Los Angeles has followed up a 6-1 stretch with three straight losses.

Nationals 3, Marlins 2

In Washington, Max Scherzer pitched seven sharp innings for Washington in his first start since he was sidelined by neck spasms.

Bryce Harper homered for Washington, and pinch hitter Adam Lind singled in the tiebreaking run in the eighth inning. The Nationals expanded their lead in the NL East over second-place Miami to 14 games.

Brandon Kintzler (4-2) worked the eighth and Sean Doolittle got three outs to earn his sixth save.

Giancarlo Stanton hit his major league-leading 37th homer for the Marlins, matching his previous career high. Jarlin Garcia (0-2) got the loss.

Scherzer struck out nine and gave up two runs. The right-hander was coming off an abbreviated start against the Marlins six days earlier, when he was pulled after one inning with neck spasms.

Cubs 5, Giants 3

In San Francisco, Javier Baez hit an inside-the-park homer to back Jake Arrieta's 11th win in the champion Cubs' first visit to AT&T Park since eliminating San Francisco in Game 4 of the NL Division Series last October.

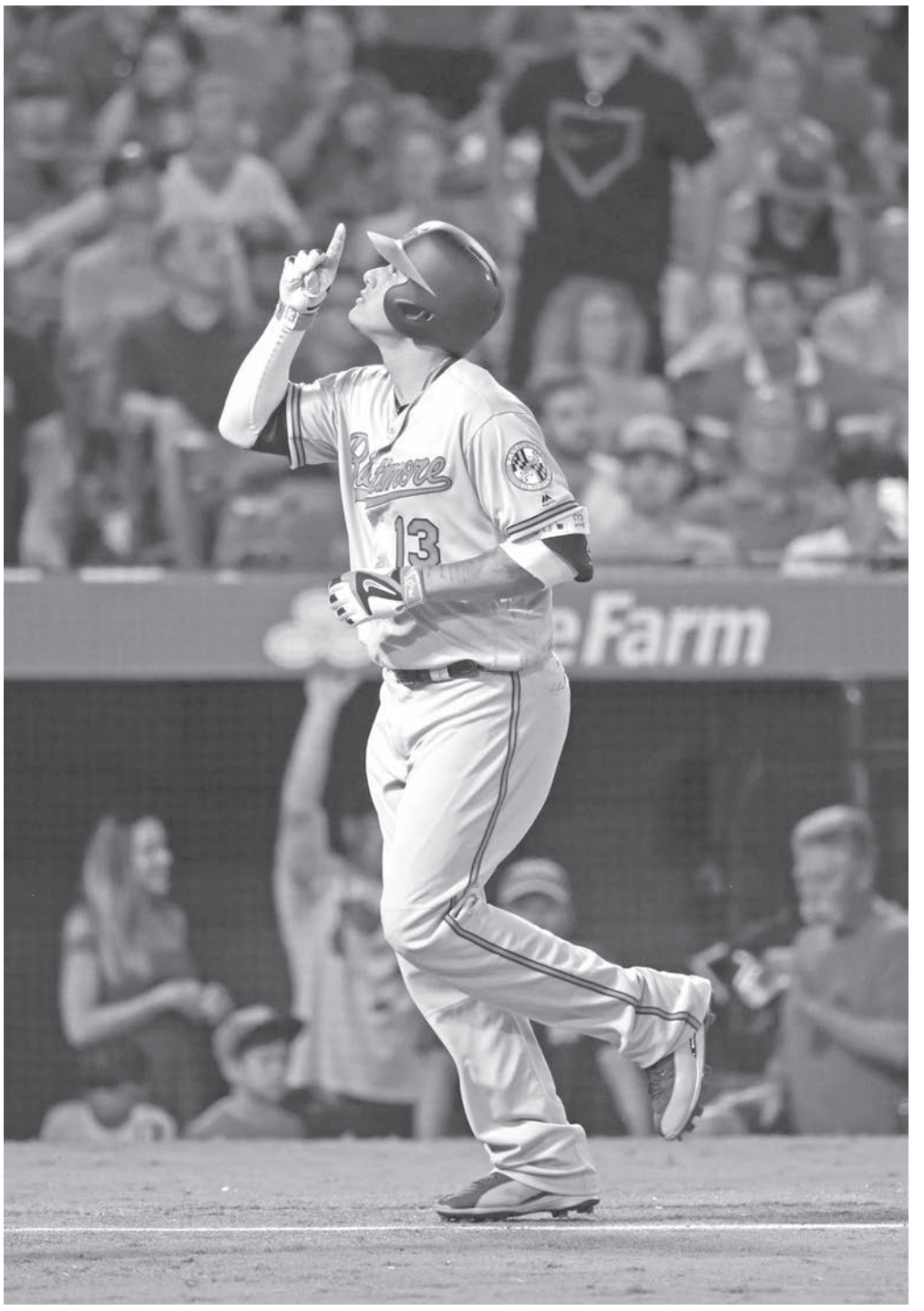
Baez's 16th homer took a tricky bounce off the low wall in right-center and deflected past oncoming right fielder Carlos Moncrief nearly 100 feet back in the direction of the corner in right.

The NL Central leaders moved 1 1/2 games ahead of second-place Milwaukee, which lost 5-4 at Minnesota.

San Francisco rookie Ryder Jones hit his first career home run with a two-run shot in the sixth off Arrieta (11-8).

Wade Davis got three outs for his 24th save in 24 tries.

San Francisco left-hander Matt Moore (3-12) was charged with five runs and eight hits in six innings.



AP

Baltimore Orioles' Manny Machado celebrates his grand slam during the seventh inning of a baseball game against the Los Angeles Angels, Monday, Aug. 7, 2017, in Anaheim, Calif.

Cardinals 11, Royals 3

In Kansas City, Mo., Matt Carpenter hit a three-run homer in St. Louis' six-run fourth inning, and the Cardinals earned their third consecutive victory.

Paul DeJong and Kolten Wong also connected for the Cardinals, who returned to .500 at 56-56. Carlos Martinez (8-9) pitched eight innings of two-run ball for just his second win in his last nine starts.

Royals right-hander Ian Kennedy (4-8) was charged with seven runs, six earned, and six hits in six innings. He is winless in 14 consecutive starts at Kauffman Stadium since beating Minnesota on Aug. 20, 2016.

Mike Moustakas, Eric Hosmer and Brandon Moss homered for Kansas City, which has dropped six of eight.

Twins 5, Brewers 4

In Minneapolis, Eddie Rosario doubled home the tying run in the seventh inning and scored the winning run for Minnesota on a balk.

After Eduardo Escobar drew a leadoff walk, Rosario hit a smash to right field that fooled Domingo Santana, who took two steps in before watching the ball sail over his head. Escobar scored to tie the game at 4.

Rosario was still at third with two out when the Brewers employed a dramatic shift on left-handed hitting Jason Castro. With no fielder near third base to hold him on, Rosario danced halfway down the baseline, causing Oliver Drake (3-4) to step off the rubber.

When Drake stepped back on the rubber, Rosario made another break for home. This time Drake flinched and plate umpire Bill Welke called a balk, sending Rosario home.

Buddy Boshers (1-0) retired one batter in the seventh to earn the victory. Matt Belisle worked the ninth for his second save.

Pirates 3, Tigers 0

In Pittsburgh, Trevor Williams pitched seven crisp innings, leading Pittsburgh to the win.

Williams (5-4) struck out five and walked two, giving up only a leadoff single to James McCann in the third. Williams threw a career-high 107 pitches and never allowed a runner to third base.

Juan Nicasio got three outs for his second save, completing Pittsburgh's one-hitter. The Pirates have won three straight and four of five.

Francisco Cervelli put the Pirates in front with an RBI double off Jordan Zimmermann (7-9) in the second. John Jaso provided some late insurance with a pinch-hit two-run homer in the seventh.

Zimmermann struck out three and walked two in seven innings. The Tigers have dropped three straight following a four-game winning streak.

Reds 11, Padres 3

In Cincinnati, Joey Votto homered for the third straight game and pulled into a tie with Ted Kluszewski on the Reds' career list.

The Reds homered four times in all, with Patrick Kivlehan hitting his first career grand slam. Adam Duvall and Zack Cozart also connected.

Votto's 251st career homer off Jhoulys Chacin (11-8) moved him into a tie for fifth place with Big Klu, the first baseman who cut the sleeves off his uniform to free his big upper arms. Votto's 136th homer at Great American bumped him ahead of Jay Bruce for the ballpark record.

Jose Pirela drove in all of San Diego's runs with his first career multihomer game. The first was a two-run shot off Tim Adleman, who went only 4 2/3 innings. Adleman hasn't won since June 27, going 0-5 in seven starts with a 6.88 ERA. Blake Wood (1-4) replaced Adleman in the fifth and pitched out of a two-on threat.

Home run king Bonds wishes he played 1 more year

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Barry Bonds so badly wanted to play one final season.

On the 10th anniversary of breaking baseball's all-time home run mark, Bonds told The Associated Press on Monday night he believes he would have reached 800 homers or come very close.

Bonds said it "stung" to walk away from a decorated 22-year career with little notice immediately after a record-setting 2007 season with the San Francisco Giants, when he topped Hank Aaron's mark.

Bonds said there were never discussions about him playing for the Giants in 2008. He also said he didn't push for it because, "I was just told I'm not coming back and that was it."

The 53-year-old Bonds now works for the Giants. He was at AT&T Park on Monday night, the same place he hit No. 756 to pass Aaron.

Bonds finished with 762 home runs, and the seven-time NL MVP ended his career under the cloud of steroids allegations.

"Yeah, it should have only been nine (years ago). I should have played one more year, I should have had the chance to," Bonds said, standing behind the batting cage.

"It's all right, though. Those 22 were still good. I wish I could have gotten to retire better, or just walk away better, whatever it was, however you want to call it," he said.

Bonds waved from the broadcast booth when he was shown on the big board before the top of the third inning, when highlights of his record-setting homer were played.

"I was what (38) away from 800? I'd have been real close. I would have never hit under 20-something, no matter what," Bonds said.

Hours earlier, Bonds spent time chatting up his 2007 manager, current San Francisco skipper Bruce Bochy, and giving some guidance to Pablo Sandoval and Jarrett Parker between their turns taking batting practice.

Bonds said he hadn't even thought about this being 10 years since his milestone home run until hearing from the team with an invite to the ballpark Monday, when the Giants hosted the World Series champion Chicago Cubs and lost 5-3 in the series opener.

"I didn't know it was 10 years," he said. "I didn't even know I was out of baseball 10 years. It feels like just yesterday."

Later, he posted on Twitter: "Thank you @SFGiants for going down memory lane with me today. Who was there for 756? #10yearsagotoday."

As the Giants hitters got loose, Bonds pondered what might have been with a season more of chances.

"It always will eat at you in a way, always, because it just wasn't right the way it was done. It is what it is. Just to say goodbye like that after all, that's not cool," he said.

"But I've learned to overcome it and accept it and move on. If I didn't overcome it I wouldn't be back here. There's no reason to subject myself to that kind of stuff. If it wasn't for me to just overcome it then just say, I played my 22 years, I had a great career, I love my city, the city loves me. That means more to me than anything. You've got to weigh it all. Great community, great city, great fans here, family I say mostly, that's what they are."

In July 2015, Bonds said he had a huge "weight lifted" when federal prosecutors dropped what was left of their criminal case against him after a nearly decade-long steroids prosecution.

Bonds was on 53.8 percent of Hall of Fame ballots in this year's voting, up from 43.3 percent of ballots last year and 36.2 percent in his initial appearance.

JON PEREZ

Saipan Unity Lions Club president Willy Barbo, fifth left, hands over the ceremonial check to Karidat Social Services coordinator Emelda Camacho in yesterday's presentation. SULC members and past officers are the others in the photo.

'Sports events good fundraising tool'

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Unity Lions Club president Willy Barbo said sports tournaments like last week's bicycle race are good fundraising events that would help fund their various community projects.

Barbo and other SULC members and past officers turned over a $1,000 check to Karidat yesterday. The money was collected in the 2nd Annual SULC bike race on July 30 at Banzai Cliff in Marpi.

"It is beneficial to all. You get the chance to exercise and at the same time help the community. We donated all proceeds of the bike race to Karidat," said Barbo.

"We have been donating to Karidat every year. This is our fourth straight year of helping them with their programs."

They also organize an annual golf tournament and are also planning to add bowling on their roster of fundraising sports events.

"We're now discussing which organization would be the beneficiary of the planned bowling tournament," said Barbo.

Their annual health fair will be held in November after their 25th founding anniversary this October. SULC was duly recognized by the international organization in December 1992.

Karidat Soical Services coordinator Emelda Camacho thanked SULC in behalf of the Catholic charity organization. "We are always thankful to generous supporters. They are one of the groups that has consistently help us with our programs."

"The money would help us with our programs in assisting the needy. With classes about to open, we could use the money to help those who would need clothes, shoes, and school supplies," said Camacho.

SULC thought of the bicycle race because of the island's vibrant cycling group, whose members usually volunteer in international triathlon races on Saipan like the Ironman, XTERRA, and Tagaman.

A total of 42 cyclists joined SULC's second bicycle race where familiar names made it to the podium in various age divisions. The 60-kilometer course had the participants taking three loops from Banzai Cliff to Mobil Tanapag.

Governor's Tourism Cup next month

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Local golfers are invited to try their luck in the 2nd Annual Governor's Tourism Cup Golf Tournament, scheduled on Sept. 2 at the east course of the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

Show time is at 6:30am while participants of the fundraising golf tournament would tee off at 7:30am.

The charity tournament is held to support the programs of the Marianas Tourism Educational Council and MY WAVE Club.

All proceeds would fund MTEC's educational outreach programs to all schools like the annual tourism summit and other tourism-related activities that also involve MY WAVE Club.

Entry fee is $100 that includes the green fee, use of golf cart, refreshments, and access to the after tournament awards banquet.

The Double Peoria System, commonly used in fundraising contests, will be followed where the tournament committee secretly selecting and assigning handicap allowances to six holes.

The holes could either be two each from par 3s, par 4s or par 5s. Often times, it could also be one of each per nine—front or back. Golfers do not know the holes the committee selected while they are playing.

Championship (0-5 handicap), A (6-10), B (11-16), C (11-16), Ladies, and Over-55 Senior are the flights that are to be contested.

The Top 3 finishers in each flight will be getting cash prizes with the champion going home with $300, while the second and third placers earning $200 and $100 each.

Participants would also vie for prizes assigned in each hole—longest drive, closest to the pin, and the hole-in-one.

Raffle draw prizes are also at stake in awards banquet.

Local businesses have either donated cash or in kind prizes for the hole-in-one and raffle drawing.

The tournament fee can be paid either by cash, credit cards and checks. Checks must be payable to MTEC.

Entry forms are available at the office of the Marians Visitors Authority in San Jose where payments can also be made.

For more information, call the MVA office at 664-3200 to 01 or email MTEC board member and Governor's Office special assistant for project development Vicky Benavente at vicky.benavente@gov.mp.

NMI Rugby 7s warms up for Vanuatu

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI men's Rugby 7s team will be competing in an international tournament in Guam later this month, using the event as a gauge for the 2017 Pacific Mini Games in Vanuatu set from Dec. 4 to 15.

Northern Marianas Rugby Union president Stanley Iakopo informed Northern Marianas Sports Association members of their federation's activities leading up to the Mini Games in Port Villa.

Several Asian teams would be competing against them and Guam in the Heineken International 7s.

Iakopo said this will be a great tune up event for the CNMI national team and would test how ready they are for the Mini Games. "Rugby had been non-existent for over 10 years. We're thankful that we receive support from the community."

"This is a good test for us for Vanuatu. The team is made up of 90 percent local and with the strong support from the community, we're hoping to keep the team for the 2019 Pacific Games," added Iakopo.

He said they scheduled a fundraising event on Aug. 22 for the Guam trip and the Mini Games in December. Tickets are $25 each at Naked Fish Bar & Grill in Susupe from 7pm to 10pm.

The Vanuatu Mini Games is the 10th edition of the scaled down version of the Pacific Games. It was originally set in September but Cyclone Pam delayed the preparations being done by the organizing committee.

Archery, athletics, beach volleyball, 3x3 basketball, boxing, football, golf, judo, karate, netball, table tennis, tennis, and weightlifting are the other sports aside from Rugby 7s that are on the Vanuatu Mini Games calendar.

The CNMI will also be competing in athletics, golf, and 3x3 basketball. Weightlifting is another local federation that is thinking of competing. All sports federations have until Oct. 20 to submit their athletes' entries.

In other news, the local weightlifting federation will also have a fundraising event on Aug. 26 at 6pm at Jonny's Bar in Garapan.

CNMI

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Conatsu and Coume Kaga, who have been at the Regional Training Center in Lautoka for nearly eight months after getting scholarships early this year. The six players will be then joined in Fiji by Maria and Anthony Gregoire, Hye Jin Elliot, Daniel Kang, Richard Steele, Song, Vincent Tudela, Sean Lee, Grace Choi, Michael Ren, and Malika Miyawaki, who will leave Saipan early Thursday morning.

"We have strong team that will compete in Fiji. It will be a very good competition in the POJC," said Race, who will leave with the squad tomorrow.

"We have depth in the U16 with Robbie, Ken, Vincent, and Michael plus the players from Guam and the Federated States of Micronesia. Carol is obviously the favorite in the U16 singles and will likely pair with Malika in the doubles. Carol's brother, Sean, is a strong contender in the boys U14," the CNMI Sports Hall of Famer said.

Race is also excited to see the development of the Kaga sisters, Woo, and Paik after going through regular training sessions at the RTC for several months.

"We will see how far they have gone since joining the RTC in January. They played in several tournaments in Fiji and Australia and I would love to see their progress," the long-time coach added.

CAROL

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Smith, the 15-year-old player has already surpassed her performance in the Oceania Closed last year. Lee only won one match in the 2016 edition of the tournament in Fiji, beating Australia's Monique Belovukovic of Australia, 6-0, 6-2, before losing to Mikaela Haet, also of Australia, in the Round of 16, 5-7, 1-6.

The CNMI junior player has also improved her results in the doubles after she and Australia's Oleksandra Kalachova prevailed against the latter's compatriot Isabella Bozicevic and Helena Spiridis in their first round match yesterday, 6-2, 6-3. Last year, Lee teamed up with Palau's Ayana Rengiil and they bowed to Ella Husrefovic and Jessica Zaviacic in the opening round, 5-7, 4-6.

With the victory this time, Lee and Kalachova gained a spot in the quarterfinals and incidentally they will challenge Smith and Roopa Bains for a seat in the semifinals. Bains and Smith advanced to the Round of 3 following a 6-1, 7-5 win over the CNMI's Isabel Heras and Australia's Milan Krish.

Heras is done in the doubles, but will still play in the singles event. She is in the plate after losing her opener in the main draw and will battle Australia's Joy Andreou today.

Robbie Schorr, the third Commonwealth player entered in the tournament, is in the plate, too of the boys singles play and will square off against Vanuatu's Marlin Hannam.

TEEN

From Page 28

winning squad's last goal came a minute later.

Despite the 1-4 loss and playing under conditions that's hotter than Saipan, the Teen Ayuyus remained upbeat as they managed to attack Kunimi's defense on several plays and kept the ball longer.

"The CNMI team tried to build up in attacking and possessed the ball longer. The heat was very challenging for all of us, I believe it is hotter here than on Saipan," said Angeles, adding that head coach Michiteru Mita has scheduled today's weight measurement and jogging, beginning at 6:15am to avoid the searing heat.

More work for players, coaches

The work for the CNMI squad and its coaches did not stop after their match against Kunimi.

Mita and goalie Christopher Aninzo attended a goalkeeper training last Monday afternoon, joining other representatives from Japanese and Korean teams that were playing in the youth football festival.

Clayton Izuka and John Bucayo were under the weather and missed the goalkeeper workshop, according to Angeles. Kim Byung Ji, who played for South Korea in 2002 World Cup, facilitated the clinic.

While Mita and Aninzo were working with Kim, the rest of the team watched the afternoon match between Shujitsu FC of Japan and Gwangju FC of Korea.

"Players were divided into two groups and they analyzed the two teams based on how they attack, defend, make transition, and use tactics. During the halftime and at the end of the match, the players presented their answers and had discussions. Coach Mita wants the boys to always communicate with each other and analyze other teams' tactics," Angeles said.

Meanwhile, the Teen Ayuyus were slated to face New Yangdong FC of Korea at 5pm (6pm Saipan time) yesterday for their second training match. The games in South Korea are part of the CNMI team's five-day training camp.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	63	49	.563	—
New York	59	51	.536	3
Tampa Bay	58	55	.513	5½
Baltimore	56	56	.500	7
Toronto	52	59	.468	10½

Central Division

Cleveland	59	50	.541	—
Kansas City	57	54	.514	3
Minnesota	54	56	.491	5½
Detroit	51	60	.459	9
Chicago	41	68	.376	18

West Division

Houston	71	40	.640	—
Seattle	57	56	.504	15
Los Angeles	55	58	.487	17
Texas	53	58	.477	18
Oakland	50	62	.446	21½

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	65	44	.596	—
Miami	52	57	.477	13
Atlanta	51	59	.464	14½
New York	49	60	.450	16
Philadelphia	40	69	.367	25

Central Division

Chicago	58	52	.527	—
Milwaukee	59	54	.522	½
St. Louis	55	56	.495	3½
Pittsburgh	54	57	.486	4½
Cincinnati	45	66	.405	13½

West Division

Los Angeles	79	32	.712	—
Colorado	64	48	.571	15½
Arizona	63	48	.568	16
San Diego	49	61	.445	29½
San Francisco	44	69	.389	36

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SSS 2017 Youth Summer Futsal Tournament Awards Ceremony

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

4Gives FC players pose with their first place medals and trophy during the awards ceremony for the Saipan Soccer School's 2017 Youth Summer Futsal Tournament last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

HK SSS players gather for a group photo after receiving the Fair Play Award in the co-ed U12 division.

Isamu United players pose with their Fair Play Award in the girls U17 age group.

From left, NMI U16's Jim Maniago, John Mark Anastacio, and coach Rodwealth Espana are all smiles after getting the Fair Play Award in the boys U16 division.

Saipan Elite players and coach Catherine Attao-Toves, back row second left, pose with their runner-up medals in the boys U16 division. Also in the photo is Saipan Soccer School's Eli Arago, back row left, and referee Rodwealth Espana, who presented the awards to the winners.

Marianas Health Armada coach Russell Zapanta, back row left, and his players pose with their runner-up medals in the girls U17 division.

F. Marinos players show the medals and trophies they won after ruling the girls U17 division.

Gase: Cutler didn't delay retirement to stand on sideline

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Sports

Machado's grand slam upstages Trout, Orioles beat Angels, 6-2

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Carol enters quarterfinals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

World-ranked Carol Lee had another easy win in the 2017 Oceania Closed Junior Championships yesterday at the Regional Training Center in Lautoka, Fiji.

Lee swept Elys Saguil-Ventura of Australia, 6-3, 6-0, in the second round match in the girls singles event of the B2 tournament. Lee also came from a two-set victory (similar scores) in her opening game against Saguil-Ventura's compatriot Grace Schumacher last Monday to move to Round 2.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Carol Lee gets ready to serve during a local tournament last year. She is in Fiji and made it to the quarterfinals of both the singles and doubles events of the 2017 Oceania Closed Junior Championships.

Saguil-Ventura, on the other hand, edged Tahiti's Naia Guitton to earn the right to face Lee in the next round.

With the world No. 239 Lee cutting Saguil-Ventura's stint in the ITF Juniors competition short, the CNMI player arranged a quarterfinal showdown against a familiar foe in Australia's Megan Smith. Lee and Smith will meet for the third time today after splitting their first two duels. The Commonwealth bet outclassed the Queensland native, 4-6, 6-3, 10-2, in the finals of the consolation draw of the 14/U Australian Championships two years ago. Smith then settled the score in the same tournament (team event) when she also slipped past Lee in the first singles match, 5-4 (5), 3-5, 7-10.

Regardless of the results of Lee's third collision with

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The CNMI Boys U18 National Team's starting 11 pose for a photo before playing against Japan's Kunimi High School last Monday at the Changnyeong Sports Park in South Korea.

Teen Ayuyus score in opening match

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Boys U18 National Team made it to the board in its first training match at the Changnyeong Sports Park in South Korea last Monday.

The Teen Ayuyus found the back of the net just six minutes into the second half, thanks to Sunjoon Tenorio's conversion off a one-on-one play against Japan's Kunimi High School. The CNMI forward's goal tied the match, 1-all. Kunimi, a champion team in Japan, earlier hit the board first off a header in the 33rd minute of the 80-minute game.

"Right back Carlson (Cruzat) sent the ball behind the defense line and Sunjoon was able to beat the last defender and had a 1v1 against the goalkeeper. He took the shot and scored," assistant coach Jershwin Angeles said in a report forwarded to Northern Mariana Islands Football Association.

The match remained even until Kunimi connected on a penalty kick from Mareko Tekopua's foul in the box in the 54th minute. The Japanese high school team then gained more cushion as it scored off another header in the 69th minute, while the

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CNMI jr. players out to defend Nation's Cup

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Junior Tennis Team will be on a mission when it competes in the 2017 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji next week.

"We will go out there and do our best to defend the Nation's Cup," said CNMI coach Jeff Race in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

"Tahiti will be our toughest competitor, but we can't take other teams for granted, so we really have to play our A game," he added.

The Commonwealth took the Nation's Cup last year after gaining the most titles (4) in the 17-nation tournament. Carol Lee and Robbie Schorr won the girls U16 singles and boys U14 singles championships and also the doubles crowns with Isabel Heras and Ken Song. The CNMI defeated Tahiti (three titles) and Fiji and Vanuatu, which got two championships apiece.

Schorr, Lee, and Heras are now in Fiji and will suit up for the Commonwealth's squad and the North Pacific Team. Also in Fiji are Ji Min Woo, Seung Jin Paik, and siblings

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The CNMI Junior Tennis Team and coach Jeff Race pose with their Nation's Cup award during last year's 2016 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji.